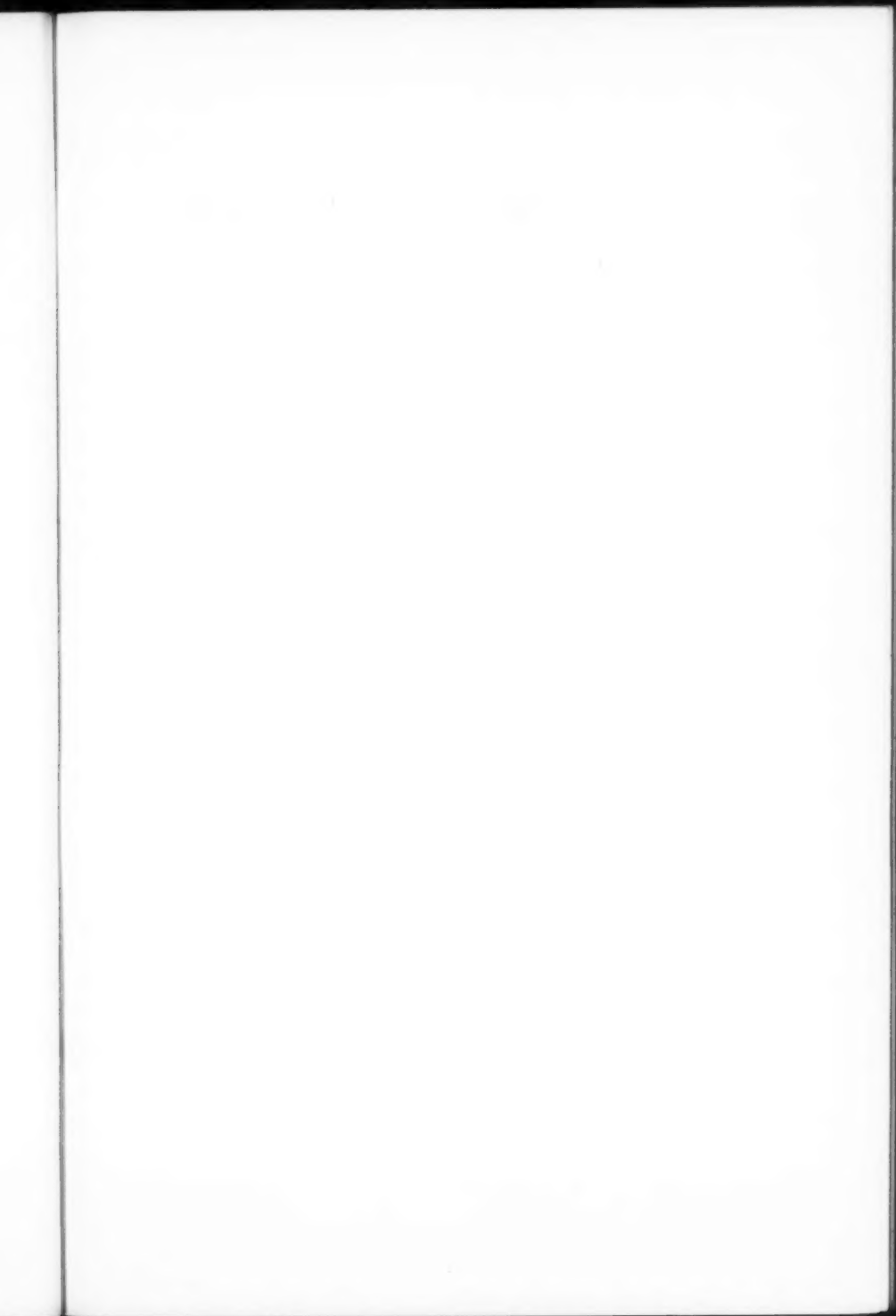
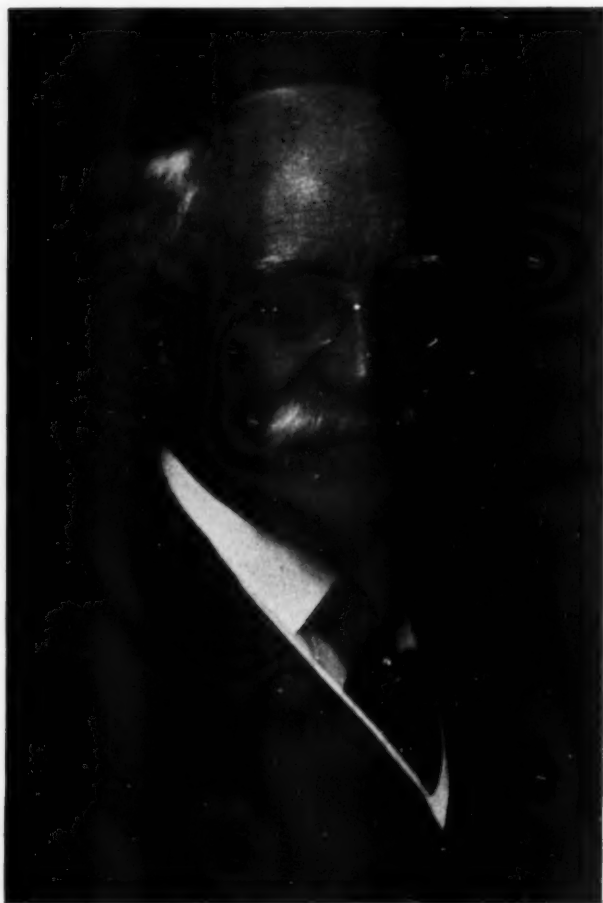


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Charles A. Noyes.

CHARLES PHELPS NOYES

In the death of Charles Phelps Noyes on April 30, 1921, the Minnesota Historical Society lost a former president and one of the most valuable members of its executive committee and the community lost a very useful citizen. A sketch of his life cannot fail to be of interest, for his career was in many ways typical of a large number of men who, after the pioneer period in Minnesota history, came from the East, and more particularly from New England, and by their lives and activities did much to transform a frontier commonwealth into the present fully developed American state.

Mr. Noyes was born on April 24, 1842, at Lyme, Connecticut, and came of the soundest New England stock. His emigrant ancestor, the Reverend James Noyes (1608-56), son of the Reverend William Noyes of University College, Oxford, later rector of Cholderton, Wiltshire, England, was matriculated at Brazenose College, Oxford, but did not graduate. Later he emigrated to New England because he could not comply with the ceremonies of the Church of England. Accompanied by his wife, he took passage on the "Mary and John" and arrived in Boston in 1634. Shortly afterwards he settled at Newbury, Massachusetts, as pastor. Here he resided for the remainder of his life. He was an active member of his order, which at that time contained the educated and ruling members of the community. He was "dearly loved" by the Reverend John Wilson of Boston, the opponent of Anne Hutchinson, and he published various religious pamphlets, such as *A Catechism for Children*, *The Temple Measured*, and *Moses and Aaron*. His son, the Reverend James Noyes (1640-1719), also was a man of prominence. He graduated from Harvard College in 1659 and then became pastor at Stonington, Connecticut, for the remaining fifty-five years of his life. He took a leading part in the founding of Yale College, his name ap-

pearing first in the list of ministers who founded the college and who became its first trustees.

The intermediate ancestors of Mr. Noyes were farmers about Stonington. They held militia commissions and fought in the various Indian wars. His grandfather, Thomas Noyes, served as lieutenant in the Trenton and Princeton campaign in the Revolution. Later he was for years president of the bank at Westerly, Rhode Island, which then was a position of much dignity. He served the last twenty years of his life, first as deputy, and then as senator, in the Rhode Island legislature, and he was also a member of the famous Hartford Convention. Among the prominent ancestors of Mr. Noyes were the famous Anne Hutchinson of Boston, Governors Codrington and Sanford of Rhode Island, and Deputy Governor Willoughby of Massachusetts. The others lived mainly in Rhode Island where they had located on account of sympathy with the opinions of Anne Hutchinson, who had been driven out of Massachusetts.

Mr. Noyes himself was deeply interested in and rightly proud of his ancestors, and one cannot help believing that their worthy example deeply influenced his conduct through life. He spent much time in tracing the various branches of his family, and in 1907 he published the results of his labors in a finely illustrated and most interesting book, the *Noyes-Gilman Ancestry*, on which the foregoing sketch has been based and to which the reader is directed for a fuller account of the Noyes family.

In this volume too is preserved a most interesting picture of the home at Lyme in which Mr. Noyes grew up and which seems to have been of the best New England type. His father, Daniel Rogers Noyes (1793-1877), after some wanderings finally settled in Lyme in 1820 and opened a general store. The business was never satisfactory, owing to the limited possibilities of so small a place. Soon after settling in Lyme, in 1827, he married Phoebe Griffin Lord and bought an old house

next to the village church, the congregation of which they both joined during a revival in 1831. Later he led in the singing, and became superintendent of the Sunday school and a deacon; his home was a stopping-place for all ministers, missionaries, and lecturers who passed through the town. His wife was a remarkable woman. She had spent much of her girlhood in New York where she had studied French and taken up miniature painting. The charming frontispiece in the *Noyes-Gilman Ancestry* is a reproduction of a painting which she made of her children. With her wider experience she was able to make her new home in Lyme a center of social life for the young people. She was fond of tableaux, charades, rhyming games, even of dancing, which at that period was not at all approved, and was the intellectual leader of the village.

It was in such a home that Mr. Noyes, the youngest of seven children, was brought up. "Our Sundays," he wrote in later years, "were strictly observed, though not made an unpleasant memory by too rigid rules. There was never the question, 'Who is going to church?' It was assumed as a matter of course that all would go. After morning service my aunts and other friends came to our house, were given home-made currant wine and cake or other refreshments, and spent a little time talking over family affairs. After the afternoon service, we had family prayers, reading and prayer, and then singing for an hour or more. . . . Usually after singing, if it was pleasant father took us for a walk to the burying-ground. Sometimes before the lights were lit, mother had us recite the Shorter Catechism. She knew it by heart, questions as well as answers, and never needed to refer to the text." At that time Sunday in New England began at six o'clock on Saturday evening; and Mr. Noyes used to tell with some amusement how the boys in the boarding-school he afterwards attended kept either Saturday or Sunday evening, according to their invitations, and often got in arrears and were obliged to keep them both for a week or two.

As a boy Mr. Noyes attended the village school. When he was fifteen he left Lyme to take a temporary job on some United States Army work at Springfield, Massachusetts. When this work was completed he attended the Springfield High School, but after one winter he returned to Lyme to attend school and to work on his father's books. In the fall of 1858 he went to Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Massachusetts, to prepare for Yale. Among the students at this time there was a craze for chess, in which he joined. But what was of more importance was the beginning of his coin and autograph collections, in which he took great interest throughout his life. The former was started largely through the interest of Professor Hitchcock, who gave him a general letter of introduction, which enabled him at odd times to examine the kegs of old copper coins of the neighboring tollgate keepers. It was in this way that he obtained his very complete collection of old United States copper cents and other minor coins. This entire collection with his later accumulations has now come by the gift of Mrs. Noyes, made in accordance with her husband's original wish, into the permanent possession of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Pecuniary considerations forced Mr. Noyes to leave Williston Seminary in the spring of 1860, and, though he spent some time studying French in a French family, he was finally forced to give up any idea of going to Yale. Accordingly in the fall of 1860, at the age of eighteen, Mr. Noyes became a bookkeeper with Gilman, Son, and Company, a banking house in New York, at an annual salary of \$150. During the course of the following year this salary was raised by gradual steps to \$400 a year, but with all his New England thrift his year's expenses amounted to \$444.17; and, notwithstanding an offer of \$800 a year if he would remain, he accepted a loan of \$1,000 from his elder brother to buy a part interest in his father's business at Lyme, to which town he returned.

Though pecuniarily unremunerative, his work at bookkeeping had by no means been a failure. He received during this

period valuable training that was to stand him in good stead throughout a long business career. Here he acquired a thorough knowledge of bookkeeping in its various branches. He always wrote a very handsome and perfectly legible hand, and his figures were clear. He would not tolerate slovenly work in others, and he carried through life an accountant's idea of the importance of a proper attention to detail in all practical undertakings.

During his life in New York, Mr. Noyes joined the City Cadets, afterward called the Union Greys, which later became Company G of the Twenty-second New York Volunteer Infantry. In June, 1863, when Lee invaded Pennsylvania, this regiment was called out for the protection of Harrisburg. Mr. Noyes joined his company there, but after thirty days the regiment was recalled on account of the draft riots in New York. For this military service Mr. Noyes records that he received eleven dollars and one cent.

Shortly after his return to Lyme, in the fall of 1863, Mr. Noyes sold his interest in his father's general store and went west as far as Dubuque, Iowa, in search of a location where he might open a dry goods store, choosing this line because his brother-in-law was a wholesale dry goods merchant in New York. Finally he leased a store in Saginaw, Michigan, but almost immediately gave it up and removed to Port Huron, Michigan, where early in 1864 he opened a general merchandise store under the name of C. P. Noyes and Company.

Mr. Noyes remained in Port Huron for four years. This was the time of the oil craze, and Michigan as well as other regions had hopes. Consequently, Mr. Noyes, for himself as well as for Eastern friends, devoted some of his time to investigation of oil prospects of which nothing came. Finally he wound up the Port Huron business, intending to accept an offer to buy a third interest in an established wholesale grocery business in Detroit, Michigan. But his older brother, Daniel R. Noyes, had already moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, and had acquired control of Vawter, Pett, and Moulton, a small whole-

sale drug house, the name of which now became Noyes, Pett, and Company. His brother's health was so poor that Mr. Noyes felt obliged to decline his Detroit offer and, at the age of twenty-six, he came to St. Paul and joined his brother as junior partner in the new firm. By 1870 the brothers had bought out the other interests and the name of the firm became Noyes Brothers. Edward H. Cutler, son of a leading Boston wholesale druggist, had previously worked for the original firm, and he now entered the employment of Noyes Brothers. As the need for additional capital was beginning to be felt keenly, the brothers took him in as a junior partner on April 1, 1871, and the firm name assumed its final form of Noyes Brothers and Cutler.

The association of these three men proved to be very fortunate and happy, and the business was destined to be very successfully conducted by them and their sons for the next fifty years. At the time that Mr. Daniel R. Noyes took hold of the business it was at a very low ebb. It was located in a small store on lower East Third Street, there were less than ten employees, and the sales were under fifty thousand dollars a year. The gradual transformation of this rather unpromising business into the great mercantile establishment of the present day was made possible, of course, by the marvelous growth of St. Paul and the territory tributary to it during the next quarter of a century, but it could not have taken place without the hard work, enterprise, and business intelligence of the three new owners of the business.

While Daniel R. Noyes lived he owned the largest share in the business and was at its head, but his younger brother, who was possibly the keenest business man of the three partners, was equally active. In the first few years he traveled for the firm, covering the territory with horse and buggy, then the only possible way. This leisurely mode of travel through the country enabled Mr. Noyes to acquire an intimate knowledge of the firm's customers and their needs, which proved of great

value to him in the coming years. His training with Gilman, Son, and Company now stood him in good stead. The system of accounting he installed was destined to be maintained along the lines he had established for many years. But above all Mr. Noyes had the real trader's instinct which so many New Englanders possess. He was a shrewd buyer. There was nothing that he enjoyed more than making a good bargain for his firm. He was a prudent and careful manager, always watchful of expenses. Mr. Noyes and his partners always gave full time and long hours to the business, believing that it was only by constant personal attention that success could be obtained and that an example of devotion to work should be set for the employees. It was these traits, combined with the very careful economy of all the partners in their personal expenses, which enabled the new firm to weather the depression of 1873 and largely to increase its capital without the addition of any further money except from the yearly accumulation of saved profits. The sales began to show a constant increase, and after ten years passed the million dollar mark. The firm moved to larger quarters, first to Robert Street, and then to Sibley and Fifth Streets.

During these years of active participation in business, Mr. Noyes had other interests in the growing community. He had early joined the House of Hope Presbyterian Church, and soon was singing tenor in the choir. In 1873 he was chairman of the committee to procure the organ for the new church edifice at Fifth and Exchange streets. This instrument was obtained at a cost of three thousand dollars. In 1877 Mr. Noyes was elected a trustee of the church.

On September 1, 1874, at the age of thirty-two, Mr. Noyes married Miss Emily Hoffman Gilman, the daughter of his former employer and the sister of his elder brother's wife. Curiously enough, similar marriages of two brothers and two sisters had frequently occurred among his ancestors, a fact which he points out in the *Noyes-Gilman Ancestry*. He had

recently bought a house on the south side of Dayton Avenue, just west of where the cathedral now stands. Here he lived for a number of years and here two of his daughters were born. Several years later on a cold winter night the family was driven out by a fire, which destroyed a row of houses including his own. Later he purchased an old residence on the south side of Summit Avenue, just west of the old Henry M. Rice homestead, and here he lived for a number of years.

In 1881 Mr. and Mrs. Noyes took their first trip to Europe. At this time Mr. Noyes joined the Arundel Society, and many of its reproductions of the old masters were to be seen in his home in after years. While on this trip, too, he added very extensively to his coin collection. He made purchases everywhere, and he also obtained many additions to his collection by examining coins in the dishes in which tobacconists kept the money that they could not pass on.

Nearly every summer after this time Mr. Noyes spent at White Bear Lake, first at a cottage he had built on the mainland and later in cottages he erected on the island. The daily respite from the heat of the city explains, perhaps, why he was able to work so effectively through the long, hot summers of many years. Having sold the Summit Avenue home, Mr. Noyes lived in several rented houses until 1887, when he started building, at 89 Virginia Avenue, the home in which he was to live for the remainder of his life. This is an attractive frame house, of colonial architecture, always painted buff with white trimmings, and situated on a bend on the west side of the avenue just off of Summit Avenue. From it one catches pleasant glimpses of the bluffs across the river, seen between the houses on Summit Avenue.

In 1889, after his first trip to the Pacific coast, Mr. Noyes was occupied with plans for the new building which Mr. Cutler's father was erecting for the firm at Sixth and Sibley streets and in which the business is still conducted. The summer of 1892 he spent in Europe, but after that for the next

decade he did not leave St. Paul for any length of time. The end of the wonderful growth and prosperity of the eighties had now come. The firm had more than doubled its business in this time, but during the depression of 1893 the business was checked, though probably less so than that of most firms in St. Paul. Still it required the careful attention of its proprietors.

During the railroad strike of 1894 Mr. Noyes served on the local arbitration committee. As these troubles passed business soon began to recover, especially after the defeat of Bryan in 1896. In 1897 Mr. Noyes was elected president of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, his year of service covering a period of very active business revival. In the following year he was a member of the Minnesota commission appointed by the governor to represent the state at the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha.

For some time Noyes Brothers and Cutler had been the oldest name in the jobbing trade in St. Paul, and the firm had existed unchanged for a longer period than any other concern in the city. The business continued to grow and develop and by 1903 its capital had reached a million dollars, the amount at which it was to remain during the rest of Mr. Noyes's life. In 1908 his brother died and additional responsibilities devolved upon him as senior partner. The firm was at this time completing a large addition to its building in order to take care of the expanding business.

In the decade that followed 1900 the sons of the original partners were made full partners in the firm. Mr. Winthrop G. Noyes, Mr. Noyes's nephew, was admitted in 1900; his own son, Mr. C. Reinold Noyes, who had been graduated from Yale in 1905 and had immediately entered the business, was, soon after his marriage, admitted as a partner in 1910; and at the end of the same year the son of his partner, Mr. Cutler, gave up the practice of law to become a partner in the business. This admission of the members of the younger generation

and their gradual assumption of the larger responsibilities was a source of pride to Mr. Noyes. He looked forward with pleasure to the prospect of their being able to carry forward the business successfully after he should retire.

For over twenty years a substantial part of the assets of the business had been tied up in real estate that the firm no longer intended to use. In 1912 the Smith Park Realty Corporation was formed to take over this property. Mr. Noyes was a director and president of this company and took an active part in its management. In the summer of 1915, in pursuance of the policy of putting the business in shape for the younger generation to handle, the old partnership was dissolved and Noyes Brothers and Cutler, Incorporated, was formed with Mr. Noyes as president and the other partners as officers and directors. At this time the trustees of his brother's estate sold their interest in the business and the junior officers acquired larger interests, which thereafter were increased yearly under an agreement with the two senior owners.

The prosperity of the drug business enabled Mr. Noyes to make investments in other local industries—investments which in after years proved very profitable and took a considerable share of his time and attention. The first venture in this line was made in 1887, when, through his friendship with Mr. Charles W. Ames, he invested in the stock of the West Publishing Company, publishers of law books and of the *National Reporter System*. Mr. Noyes was made a director of this company in the fall of that year, and after 1908 he was its vice president. During this period the company became one of the largest publishers of law books in the country, doing a nation-wide business and known perhaps the most widely of St. Paul's industries.

In 1895 Mr. Noyes began acquiring stock in the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, which had been established in the early days of the city. Mr. Charles H. Bigelow, another friend of Mr. Noyes, was president of this company,

which was one of the largest and most successful of the fire insurance companies in the Middle West. Mr. Noyes became a director of the company in 1899, and he took great interest and pleasure in its constantly increasing prosperity.

In 1896 Mr. Noyes became vice president and a director of the Capital Bank of St. Paul, taking the place of his friend, Mr. Kenneth Clark, who, upon his election as president of the Merchants National Bank, had severed his connection with the Capital Bank. Mr. William D. Kirk, the president, was an intimate friend of Mr. Noyes. Upon his death in 1906 the bank was sold to outside interests and Mr. Noyes severed his connection with it. In the same year he was elected a director of the Merchants National Bank, of which his brother had long been a director and with which Noyes Brothers and Cutler had always banked.

Another local enterprise in which Mr. Noyes became very much interested was the H. L. Collins Company, which printed labels and advertising materials. He first acquired stock in this company in 1902 and was elected vice president and a director in 1904. The business grew so rapidly that it was considered desirable to secure control of the raw materials, so in 1907 the Waldorf Box Board Company was organized, with Mr. Noyes as one of the incorporators and vice president. After some initial setbacks this company became prosperous, and in 1916 the two companies were consolidated as the Waldorf Paper Products Company. Shortly thereafter Mr. Noyes resigned as vice president, but he continued to the end of his life as a director. During Mr. Noyes's connection with this enterprise it had a wonderful development, its capital increasing more than twenty-fold.

In all of these outside ventures Mr. Noyes took as keen and active an interest as was possible with the limited time at his disposal, for all through life by far the greater part of his time was devoted to the drug business. But his associates always found that his business judgment, based on a long and

varied business career, was of great value, and that he was always loyal to his associates in any new venture; if things looked dark for a time, he did not desert, and if more funds were called for, he was not one to refuse. These sterling qualities attracted business men and brought to him valuable opportunities to join in new business ventures. Mr. Noyes also invested in St. Paul real estate and, in later years, in stocks and bonds generally, with very profitable results.

A business activity that was really in the nature of a public service sprang from Mr. Noyes's connection with the State Savings Bank of St. Paul, the only institution in the city organized under the state laws as a mutual association for the sole benefit of depositors. He became a trustee in 1894, and in 1904 he was elected president, a position which he retained until his death. In 1906 the present handsome bank building was erected on East Fourth Street. During the period of Mr. Noyes's presidency the bank's deposits increased from two million to over seven million dollars and the number of depositors from less than ten thousand to over twenty-five thousand. Mr. Noyes was also for years a trustee of the Oakland Cemetery Association and after 1918 its president. He was much interested in the development and beautification of its cemetery.

During this quarter of a century of active business life, Mr. Noyes still found time for many other activities. His coin collecting continued to furnish an outlet to his antiquarian interests, and he became actively interested in genealogical research and in the various patriotic societies that were coming into prominence in the country at that time. He was active in forming the local chapter of the Sons of the Revolution in St. Paul, was its president in 1893, and was long a member of its board of managers. He was also active in the formation of the Minnesota Society of the Colonial Wars in 1895. He was its first registrar in 1896, deputy governor in 1898, and governor in 1899, and for many years a member of the council.

He took a deep interest in the meetings of these organizations, which endeavor to preserve the memory and emulate the patriotism of the colonial forefathers whom he so greatly revered. Mr. Noyes was a capable and pleasing presiding officer, and the wide range of his interests always made him a most entertaining companion at these business and social gatherings. In 1893 he also became a member of the Minnesota Historical Society and the following year he was elected a member of the council, a position he continued to hold until his death.

It was during these years that, with the assistance of Mrs. Noyes, he was laboriously accumulating and preparing material relating to his and Mr. Noyes's ancestors — material which was eventually published as has already been related. He found in this work great pleasure and relaxation from his business cares. While the book is in a rather unusual form among genealogical works, since it gives the ancestors of two individuals instead of tracing the descendants of an early ancestor and thus on its face appeals to a limited number of people, still investigators in New England genealogy will find it valuable to them, for it contains interesting details regarding many prominent people who figure in other family trees.

In 1902, to celebrate his sixtieth year, Mr. and Mrs. Noyes made a trip around the world, going east to India and returning by way of China and Japan. Mr. Noyes made a winter trip to the West Indies in 1906, and in 1907 and again in 1910 he made trips to Europe. Except for a number of winter trips to California this completed his longer travels.

In 1911 he was one of the chief organizers of a St. Paul branch of the Archæological Institute of America. He was president of this for the remaining ten years of his life, and many of its meetings, at which representatives of the national organization gave illustrated lectures, were held at his home. Those who were privileged to attend these gatherings remember with keen enjoyment the popular presentations of new dis-

coveries and especially Mr. Noyes's gracious hospitality, his intelligent interest in archeological subjects, and his great desire to build up an enduring local organization.

In 1915 Mr. Noyes began his three-year term as president of the Minnesota Historical Society. This period was one of the most important in the history of the society, for it was during these years that its present home was constructed. Authorization by the legislature and approval by the board of control were necessary for the project. At first an unfortunate site at the rear of the capitol was selected by the authorities, but after a long struggle the society secured the present appropriate site, which adds to the effectiveness and usefulness of the handsome building which was erected. The completed project redounded much to the credit of the officers of the society. Mr. Noyes's wise advice, untiring interest, and influence were not the least important factors in the successful conclusion.

Mr. Noyes took an ever increasing interest in the House of Hope Presbyterian Church. He had been treasurer for a number of years, and in 1906 he was elected president of the board of trustees. With the growth of the city and the westward expansion of its residence district, the down-town site of the church was felt to be more and more inconvenient. After long consideration a new site was acquired on Summit Avenue in the center of the newer residence district, and in 1913 Mr. Noyes was made chairman of the building committee charged with the erection of the new edifice. It was partly through his efforts that Mr. Ralph A. Cram, the most noted exponent of Gothic architecture in the country, was employed to design the new church. During the period of construction, the building committee had many problems to consider, and Mr. Noyes found pleasure in this work. More than all did he enjoy the completed result, for the church as it stands is one of the best examples of Mr. Cram's work and an architectural monument of the city. It furnishes a large and growing congregation with a worthy church home. Mr. Noyes was a liberal contrib-

utor of money as well as of time to its erection and equipment, — he gave the organ for the new edifice, — and by his will he contributed to the endowment fund for its maintenance.

With the outbreak of the European war Mr. Noyes assumed increased business responsibilities for the drug company. He entered with zest into the hunt for new sources of supply elsewhere when the European markets were largely closed, and by his enterprise in this line he helped to make large profits for his house. When this country entered the war he had his share of the worries of the time. His youngest son entered the naval service and later his oldest son, who was associated with him in the business, left to enter the chemical warfare service, thus leaving more work to be done and all the difficult labor problems to be solved by those who remained in the business. The early armistice shortened this period of strain, and with the peace reaction the business entered upon a new period of prosperity.

In the summer of 1920, just after the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the firm had been fittingly celebrated and while the house was enjoying the greatest success and expansion it had ever known, the joint ownership and management of the business by members of the three families came to an end and Mr. Noyes retired. His son, Mr. C. Reinold Noyes, had with a number of outside investors formed a syndicate to buy out all the other interests in the business and to take over its entire management. Notwithstanding Mr. Noyes's natural parental pride in seeing his son left in full control of the organization, it was not without reluctance that, even at the age of seventy-eight, he gave up the active business life in which he had always found so much enjoyment. He soon accustomed himself to this change, however, and during the last year of his life he retained his desk at the store and spent much time in arranging his private affairs. He passed a pleasant winter and appreciated his freedom from responsibility during a period of business difficulties.

Mr. Noyes entered upon his eightieth year apparently well and strong, little realizing that he had but one more week of life. A few days later, the last time he was at his desk, he announced to one of the older men at the store that he had just had a birthday and remarked that he had just 362 good sound days ahead of him before he would be eighty years old. The man congratulated him on the prospect and wished that the next twenty-five years of his life would be as happy and fortunate as the last twenty-five years during which they had been associated. Mr. Noyes stopped a moment, as if reckoning up, and then said with a twinkle in his eye, "That is fine, but why limit me, why limit me?"

On the very next day he suffered from an acute attack of appendicitis. He was operated upon at once, but at his age the chance of recovery was small. He failed to rally and passed away early in the morning of April 30, 1921. The funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Reverend Henry C. Swearingen, at the church he loved, and the burial was in the family lot at Oakland Cemetery.

Mr. Noyes's career was a happy one. He enjoyed good health and all his faculties during a long life, experienced few personal sorrows, and was spared a lingering illness at the end. He started life with very limited worldly advantages and had to give up a college education; but with application, thrift, a keen business mind, and observation of the highest standards of business honor, he built up step by step during a long life a comfortable fortune. He married happily, and saw four children grow up, the three boys securing the education at Yale that had been denied to him. He saw the three oldest children married and independently established in comfortable homes of their own. He found increasing pleasure in his later years in his grandchildren and the widening family circle. In a time of change he never faltered in his devotion to the faith of his fathers.

Mr. Noyes took a helpful and important part in the varied life of his city, except in the one field of politics. He never ran for office, nor was he ever actively engaged in political work. Probably the thought to do so never occurred to him, since, like the rest of us, he realized that the industrial conflict has rendered it almost impossible for a successful business man to use his great abilities in the public service. In this his career differs from that of many of his ancestors who not only had the ability but actually did render the body politic efficient and loyal service.

The record of his life shows him a worthy descendant of these men and women who lived such useful lives and whose careers he delighted to study and preserve from oblivion. Assuredly Mr. Noyes enjoyed that "purest and most enduring of human pleasures . . . the possession of a good name among one's neighbors and acquaintances. . . . Such reputation regards not mental power, or manual skill, but character; it is slowly built upon purity, integrity, courage and sincerity. To possess it is a crowning satisfaction."

WILLIAM W. CUTLER

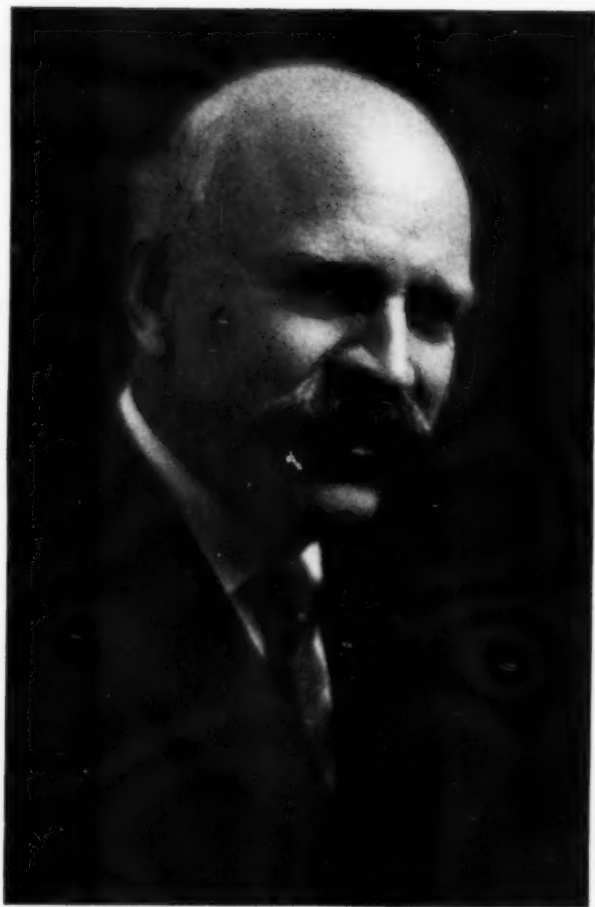
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

CHARLES WILBERFORCE AMES

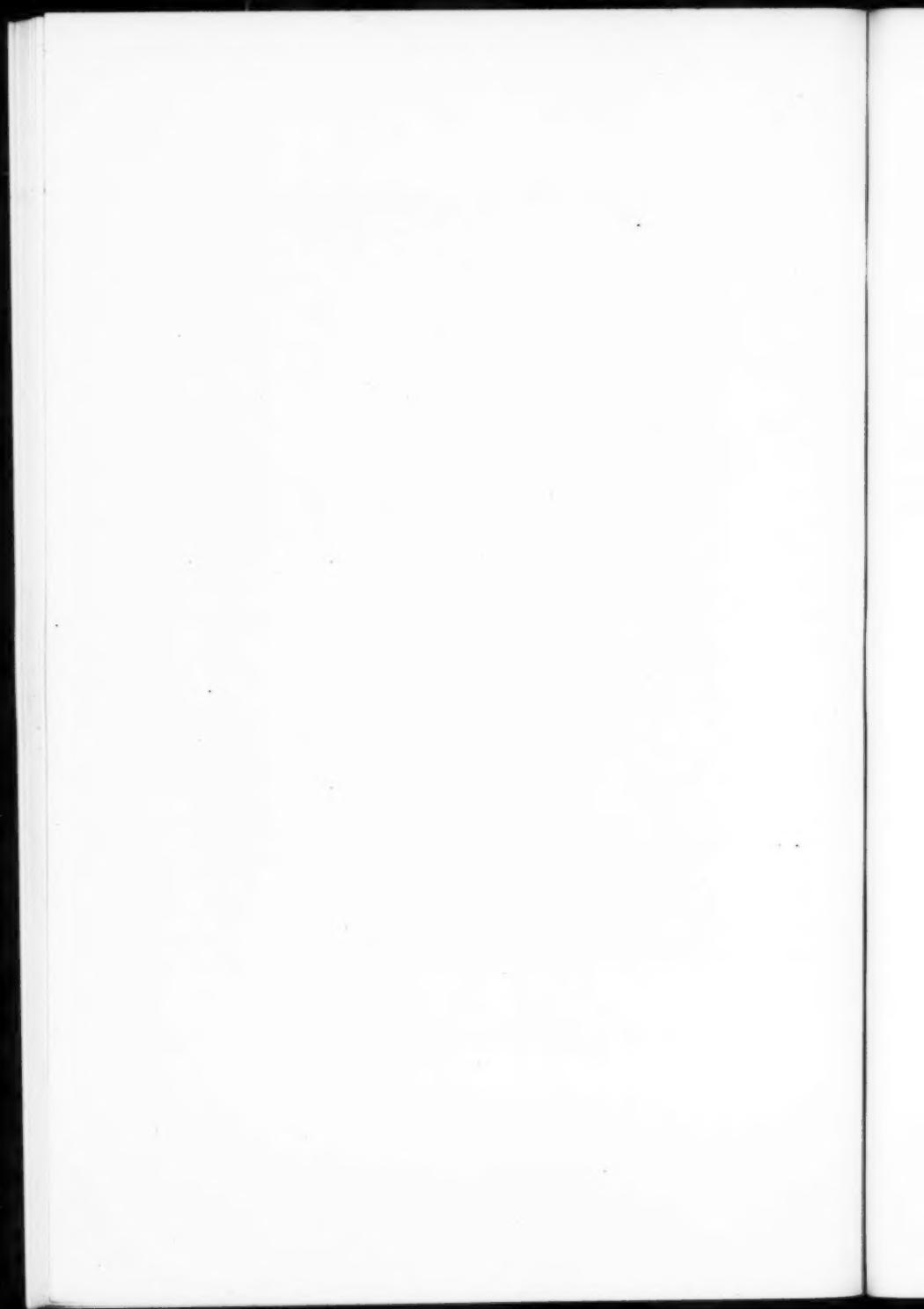
St. Paul lost one of its foremost citizens in the death of Charles W. Ames, who passed away at his home on April 3, 1921. He was a man of rare qualities, combining idealism with practical judgment in a degree possessed by few. He was of large vision, seeing the need of improvement in social and political conditions and striving with unsurpassed energy to bring about beneficial changes. In his public work he was zealous and untiring and wholly devoted to the task of benefiting his fellow men. As a citizen he stood in the foremost rank, and as a man he had no peers.

His ancestry endowed him with strong traits. He was born in Minneapolis, on June 30, 1855, the son of Charles Gordon Ames and Sarah Daniels Ames. He was educated in his early years at the Albany Academy, a school for boys at Albany, New York. When his family removed to California, he entered the public schools there, and later he was graduated from the Minneapolis high school and from Cornell University, receiving his degree of Bachelor of Literature in 1878. Between 1869 and 1871 he worked as a printer's apprentice for the *San José Mercury*. After his return to Minnesota he joined the railroad surveying party obtaining data for the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad, and he subsequently engaged in similar work on the Pennsylvania Railroad. In the intervals of his college work at Cornell he was engaged in geological work with the Pennsylvania Geological Survey. After his graduation he assisted his father for two years in the editing and publishing of the *Christian Register* in Boston.

His taste and experience being largely along the line of newspaper and publishing work, it was natural that he should incline toward that vocation, and in 1880 he became associated with the George H. Ellis Publishing Company of Boston. In 1882 he removed to St. Paul and purchased an interest in the



Charles W. Ames



West Publishing Company. He served at first as secretary, then as general manager, and for a long period of years as president of the company. As a business man, Mr. Ames was of rare capacity. He united a keen sense of fair dealing with unusual energy and good judgment. Under his excellent business guidance the company became very prosperous, and for many years it has been the largest law publishing plant in the world. No small share of its success is due to his energy and foresight. He was also a director of the Northwestern Trust Company and of the First National Bank of St. Paul, and of the American Law Book Company of New York; and he was actively interested in many lesser companies to which he gave much time and attention.

But while interested in business, Mr. Ames did not allow it to absorb his whole attention. Early in his life in St. Paul he began to take a large part in public affairs. No worthy enterprise was too onerous to engage his active mental and physical coöperation, and it was his fortune to see many small institutions and ventures of a public nature blossom into large and healthy maturity. Education was with him a never-failing source of enthusiasm. He organized the Loomis School for girls; he was active in the inauguration of the St. Paul Academy for boys; and, later, he was the prime mover in the establishment of this academy's country day school at Randolph and Snelling avenues. In the work of the public library he was particularly interested. During his long membership on the board of directors he brought about many wise innovations and developed the usefulness of the library by promoting the establishment of branches in a dozen parts of the city, which enabled the institution to serve a much larger constituency. When the agitation for the new library building was started, he took up the work with energy, and he was largely responsible for the splendid building which now is one of the architectural features of the city.

In the religious field Mr. Ames's activities were very productive. His father was a Unitarian clergyman, and the son,

in no less degree, applied his energy and zeal to the work of this creed. During the pastorate of the Reverend Samuel Crothers at the old Unity Church on Wabasha Street, Mr. Ames took an active part in church work, developing the Sunday school and occasionally occupying the pulpit in the absence of the pastor. The influence of his deep religious feeling was always shown in his keen interest in and healthy sympathy for others. No man had a larger or more healthful influence upon his friends and acquaintances, largely because of his broad charity and his keen sense of responsibility for his spiritual as well as his physical welfare. His religious nature was not obtrusive but showed itself rather in a kindly and friendly interest in his fellow men.

Mr. Ames was largely responsible for the founding, in 1908, of the St. Paul Institute, to which he devoted much of his time and money and which he brought to a successful and flourishing condition. He was impressed by the fact that, after the termination of the instruction received in the grade schools, the man of mature years had no opportunity to pursue his studies further. The idea that night schools should be established led to the conception of the institute, the scope of which later was broadened to meet the requirements, in art, natural history, and other cultural matters, of all classes of people. The work of Mr. Ames in inaugurating and rendering possible the completion of this great public institution is among the most valuable of his accomplishments as a citizen. Through this conception the desire of the public for education, not only in practical but also in cultural fields, is gratified. The institute has made St. Paul a better place to live in, for it has improved the opportunity for good citizenship and for the enjoyment of the cultural things which really are essential to normal life and development. Mr. Ames was much interested in art. He fostered exhibitions of the paintings of local and western artists, and he contributed not a few paintings to the institute gallery. His contributions to the institute's natural history museum were frequent and valuable. Through his

efforts the institute has become one of the city's greatest educational and cultural factors.

Another of his interesting achievements is the Informal Club, of which he was secretary for twenty-seven years. With a few others he organized this club, composed of sixty of the leading business and professional men of the city, for the purpose of discussing topics of general interest. The club was held together by the slenderest official ties, and it was almost wholly the genial personality of Mr. Ames, together with his bright wit and original point of view, which infused vitality and interest into the group. Those who were fortunate enough to be members have the most pleasant recollections of the temperate and scholarly atmosphere he lent to all discussions and the keen logic with which he analyzed the debates.

In philanthropy Mr. Ames assumed more than his full duty as a citizen. Aside from his large contributions to the St. Paul Institute, he was ever ready with his purse when charity called. He was in close touch with all the philanthropic organizations of St. Paul, and for several years he was a director of the Amherst H. Wilder Charity. His last public service of this nature was in connection with the organization of the Community Chest, of which he was an ardent promoter and supporter.

He was interested in all activities which concern the average citizen, and he constantly endeavored to improve the facilities for business and social intercourse. It was largely due to his efforts that the former Chamber of Commerce and the Commercial Club were merged into the St. Paul Association of Public and Business Affairs, and that the St. Paul Athletic Club was united with the latter in the present commodious quarters. It was no easy task to bring together the three rather discordant elements of these organizations in one enterprise, housed in a single building, and united in the general effort to improve the social and business relations of our merchants.

Perhaps in no part of his life did the splendid nature of Mr. Ames manifest itself more fully than in his patriotic serv-

ice during the World War. Early in the war he perfected an organization for the French war sufferers; he made a visit to France in 1916 to confer with those who were administering relief to the suffering; and he contributed an ambulance to the cause. He converted his home into a workshop in which his family and friends labored unceasingly in providing bandages, clothing, and other necessities to bring relief to the destitute of the warring countries. His contribution of material as well as of money to this work was very large. He later organized a local committee of the Fatherless Children of France, which provided for the care of hundreds of orphans. Not the least of his war services was rendered as a member of the Minnesota Commission of Public Safety. His energy and zeal contributed a great deal to the efficient work of that body. In recognition of the large share he took in relieving the French war sufferers, he was awarded by the French government the title of Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, which was conferred upon him at a large public gathering by M. Marcel Knecht in 1919.

Mr. Ames was married in 1883 to Miss Mary Lesley, daughter of Professor J. P. Lesley of Philadelphia. He is survived by his widow, his sons, Charles Lesley and Theodore, and four daughters, Mrs. Cushing Wright, Mrs. S. Eppes Turner, and Miss Elizabeth Ames of St. Paul, and Mrs. Bronson Crothers of Boston.

The very plethora of his activities and the variety of forms in which his genius showed itself make it difficult to give an estimate of the character and achievements of Charles W. Ames. There was scarcely any human activity during his life in which he did not take a part. He was unstinted in using his energy in behalf of every worthy cause, and he threw himself, without scrutinizing the cost, into every movement for the betterment of his fellow men. He was a man of tremendous force, and always worked his physical and mental powers at the highest pitch. Added to the zeal of his convictions was

the devotion of the man who submerged self that the great ideals he cherished might be attained. He was a practical idealist, holding high standards of human welfare, but never losing sight of the realities. He was a dreamer of large dreams, and fortunately most of his dreams came true. The wellspring of his activities was mainly his love for his fellow men. His life is one long story of things accomplished that tended to make life more agreeable, to make work more fruitful, and to create always a higher type of citizenship. His belief in the need of cultural things to smooth off the sharp and ugly corners of the daily life of the people led him to the interests in music, art, and education which have blossomed into fruition.

His personal character was very lovable. He was genial and kindly, always taking an optimistic view of life and seeking out and finding the best in his fellow men. He possessed a most sympathetic nature, a clear and logical mind, and a wit that was unexcelled. His extensive knowledge of current events enabled him to see with clear vision things that to others seemed confused and involved. He was a charming conversationalist and public speaker, a widely-read man in all good literature, a lover of art and music, and a devotee of the cultural things of life. He was a man of large influence, and his fellow citizens had unbounded faith in his wisdom and good intentions.

No higher praise can be given to a man than to say that in him was personified a good citizen. This means that, devoid of self interest, he constantly promoted the welfare of his neighbor and the community in which he lived. Looking back on his many accomplishments for the good of the city of St. Paul, we may say with truth that no man strove more greatly, accomplished more good, nor left a higher example of citizenship than Charles W. Ames.

ARTHUR SWEENEY

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

KNUTE STEENERSON'S RECOLLECTIONS THE STORY OF A PIONEER¹

I was born in Telemarken, Norway. My ancestors, as far back as can be traced, lived on an estate in Morgendal called Berge. The building on this estate was originally located on a height of land in the center of a valley. It had been the stronghold for Viking chiefs in the early days, and many of my ancestors are known to have held positions of trust.

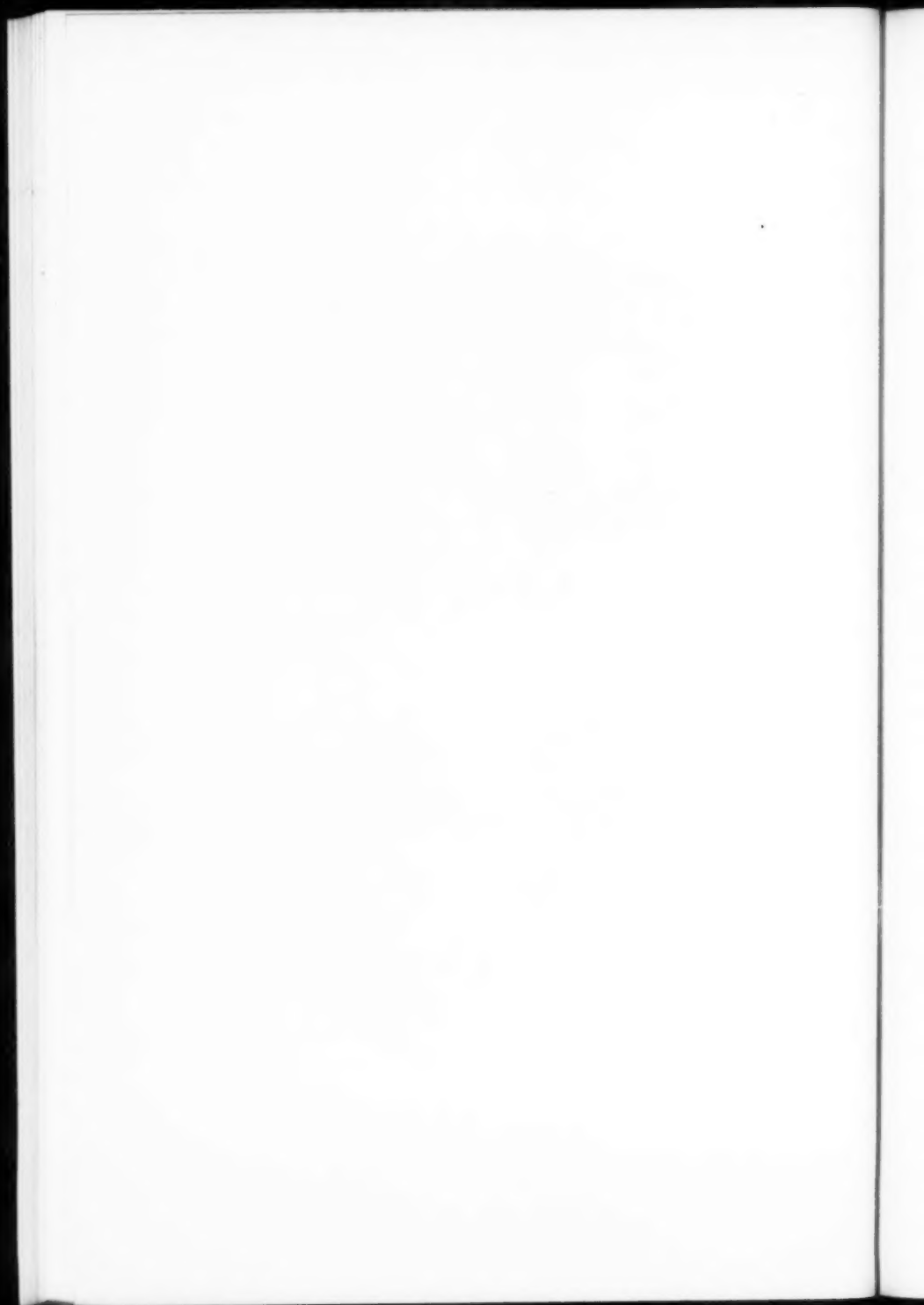
I immigrated with my parents to America in the year 1850, at the age of six years. It took about fourteen weeks to cross the Atlantic in a small sailing vessel in those days. However, one foggy morning the city of New York was reached. It was then a small city without skyscrapers or railroads. The journey from New York was made in canal boats drawn by horses through the Erie Canal. I can remember how we would have to run and get down under the deck when we went under the bridges. We arrived at Buffalo and from there went by boat to Milwaukee. There we met an old acquaintance of my father who came in from the country with a load of hay to sell. Next day father and mother and three children, of whom I was the oldest, together with our baggage, took our places on the hayrack wagon and were taken fifty miles up into the country. We drove all day and night and I shall never forget the singing of frogs and the barking of

¹ This document came into the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society in the fall of 1920, through the courtesy of Mr. Hjalmar R. Holand, of Ephraim, Wisconsin. From internal evidence it appears to have been written about 1910. It is not reproduced *verbatim et literatim*; but, in order that the flavor of the original might be preserved, the editorial revision has been restricted to a minimum. The footnotes, with the exception of those signed by Mr. Holand, have been supplied by Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, research assistant on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society. — Ed.



MR. AND MRS. KNUTE STEENERSON

[From photographs taken at the time of their marriage in 1876. The originals are in the possession of Mrs. Steenerson.]



the dogs that night. Milwaukee in those days was a small frontier town on the lake. The country which we passed was sparsely settled and swampy.

The family lived in the vicinity of Madison, Wisconsin, for two years.² But my father, one year after our arrival, left for the new Territory of Minnesota. The talk was that there would be much government land opened for settling in that new territory, and he wished to get a piece of land.

In the spring of 1852 we fitted out a yoke of steers, a covered wagon (prairie schooner), and one cow.³ We were to join a caravan of fourteen wagons of movers who were bound for the promised land of the Territory of Minnesota, which was then a wild country inhabited by Indians. Many of the people in Wisconsin said that Minnesota was not a good place to move to for it was too far north and not good for farming and they insisted that Iowa was a much better place to go to. But the party was made up to go to Minnesota. My father had gone there the year before and mother was alone with three children born in the old country and one more a year old, a native American, who afterward became a prominent lawyer and congressman of Minnesota.

² During this period the family resided on a farm of forty acres in Dane County, Wisconsin, which was rented by the father, Steener Knutson. In Norway Mr. Knutson was educated to be a teacher, and while residing in Wisconsin, in addition to working his farm, he followed his profession for a time. Unfavorable economic conditions in his native land brought about his immigration to America, and similar circumstances, combined with his desire to be his own landlord, seem to have caused his removal to Minnesota. Return I. Holcombe and William H. Bingham, eds., *Compendium of History and Biography of Polk County, Minnesota*, 344 (Minneapolis, 1916).

³ The removal to Minnesota took place in 1853, according to the account in Holcombe and Bingham, *Polk County*, 344. This date is confirmed by the fact that Congressman Halvor Steenerson, who, according to the present narrative, was one year old when his mother brought him to Minnesota, was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, on June 30, 1852. Warren Upham and Mrs. Rose B. Dunlap, *Minnesota Biographies, 1653-1912* (*Minnesota Historical Collections*, vol. 14—St. Paul, 1912); Albert N. Marquis, *Who's Who in America*, vol. 11 (Chicago, 1920).

My father had signed a note for some one in Madison, Wisconsin, as security. After we had started alone with our yoke of oxen, for we were to join the caravan of fourteen wagons a few miles out, and as we were proceeding in the road a few miles, suddenly the sheriff from Madison stopped us and said he had an execution, and he unhitched the oxen from the wagon in the road and drove them away to Madison to be sold to satisfy the debt. Some of the party in the caravan heard about it and they raised a purse among them to satisfy the debt and one of the party went to Madison after the oxen. There in the road, mother with her four children camped in the wagon all night, and I never shall forget the cry of the whippoorwill. I was the oldest one of the children, and I cannot remember a happier moment in my life than that morning at daybreak when one of the party arrived with the oxen and hitched them onto the wagon. In less than one hour we had joined the great caravan and proceeded westward.

The caravan moved along and days and weeks passed. One night we camped near a big Indian camp and the Indian children came out and played with the white children. Every night a good place for grass for the oxen and cows was looked up. As a rule, the country we passed through was well wooded and, consequently, there was no lack of firewood for cooking meals in camp. Finally we arrived at the Mississippi River at the place where the city of La Crosse now stands. It was then barren sand prairie with a few shanties and a steamboat landing.⁴ There we met our father who had gone a year before. He had had bad luck as he had fallen into the ice and

⁴ La Crosse was growing rapidly in the early fifties. In 1851 there were but five families in the town; by 1854 this number had increased to three hundred. The rapidly growing pioneer community undoubtedly presented a rough and shabby appearance, and when Steenerson compared his earliest impression of the town with the La Crosse he knew in later years he probably recalled the picture here recorded. Spencer Carr, *A Brief Sketch of La Crosse, Wisc'n.*, 12, 28 (La Crosse, 1854).

cut one of his fingers off. He had also taken a contract and had been cheated out of the pay.

After a day or two of camping on the sand prairie near La Crosse, the caravan commenced to cross over the Mississippi River into Minnesota. It was a steam ferry and it took about two wagons each time and landed them in La Crescent on the Minnesota side of the Mississippi River.⁵ From the ferry landing to the trading post of one store called La Crescent was about a mile or two, consisting of low bottom with grass so high that it reached over the oxen's backs and in places so soft that the wagon went in up to the hubs. From there the caravan went over some ridges and bluffs heavily wooded by oak timber. No road or house was in sight anywhere.

The second day we struck a branch of the Root River, a little valley called the Looney Valley, where the members of the party spread out and established themselves on claims of land.⁶ As the country was new and near to low river bottoms much sickness prevailed — fever and ague. My father had just built a small log house about twelve feet square with a roof on one side only and unchinked and not plastered when both my father and mother were taken sick with ague. Sometimes they were shaking with cold so that their teeth would clatter. After that spell they would again be sweating so that

⁵ Settlement at this point was started in 1851 by Peter Cameron, who erected the first house. This structure, in which the owner later conducted a general merchandise business, was probably the store mentioned by Steenerson. Edward D. Neill, *History of Houston County*, 422-425 (Minneapolis, 1882).

⁶ The valley of Silver Creek, one of the several streams which join the Root River in the vicinity of Houston, was known as Looney Valley. The title was derived from the family name of the earliest permanent settlers, John S. Looney and his three sons, who took up claims in the valley in 1852. For a time it was believed that the principal town of the region would develop at this point; a townsite company was organized, and a "paper village" was surveyed and platted. A post office known as Looneyville was established here in 1855, but it was discontinued in 1858. Neill, *Houston County*, 399, 401, 403.

the perspiration would be streaming from their faces, and then they would get very thirsty. They would then call on me for water. I had a pint flask which I would fill at the little stream about ten rods from the house, and run back to the house and give it to my father. He used to empty it in a few swallows, and thus I kept them supplied with fresh drinking water. I had also to supply the house with firewood. I picked up old dry small branches and broke them up, which made very good firewood. Thus the summer went on and in the fall when the weather got a little cooler they got a little better. Then to get a little start my father sold his claim for sixty dollars and moved across the Root River near where the village of Sheldon now stands. There was a sparkling spring brook and a narrow valley between high bluffs. Here the family of boys and girls grew up and the old folks got to be quite prosperous.⁷

The country was wild and Indian camps could frequently be seen. Wild deer were plentiful, roaming the bluffs. One eve-

⁷ The first settlement of Norwegians in Minnesota was made near the present village of Spring Grove in Houston County in 1852. This rapidly spread westward and northward, embracing the valleys where Steenserson's father and his companions settled, all the western half of Houston County, and the eastern half of Fillmore County. From 1852 to 1875 it was perhaps the chief American destination toward which thousands of emigrants from Norway turned their faces. From 1865 to 1875 it was a preëminent point of radiation from which hundreds of caravans of Norwegian pioneers set out to found new settlements in western Minnesota and the distant Dakotas. There are now in this settlement thirty-nine Norwegian Lutheran congregations, having a membership of 11,664. The total population of Norwegian descent is at least 15,000. An historical sketch of the settlement appears in the writer's *De norske settlementers historie*, 358-378 (Ephriam, Wisconsin, 1909).—Hjalmer R. Holand

Steener Knutson, the father, evidently attained a position of some prominence in the pioneer settlement, for he was chairman of the first town meeting in 1858. He also was a member of the original board of trustees of the "Houston Society of the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church," an organization of about sixty families. In this community he continued to reside until 1875, when he again turned pioneer, this time finding a home on Minnesota's northwestern frontier in Polk County. Neill, *Houston County*, 453, 455, 456; Holcombe and Bingham, *Polk County*, 344.

ning in midsummer a large number of Indians came past our house, as their trail lay close by. They were very much intoxicated. Mother heard them coming about a mile off and took the ax into the house and locked the door safely. They made quite a racket outside of the house and we thought every moment they would break in, but they passed on.

I had a nice yoke of steers which I broke and they were so well trained that when I hollered "Whoa" they would stop almost within an inch of where I wanted them to stop. Being quite an ox driver, I and another young fellow rigged up a breaking team with six yoke of oxen. We had a big grub breaker which cut twenty-four inches and we could turn over brush land which was covered with brush and small trees. We used to take contracts by the acre and did fairly well.

Later I disposed of my oxen and invested in horses and a threshing machine. It was a four-team horse power machine. We did quite a lot of threshing. Everybody in the neighborhood thought it was a big and fast thresher, as we could thresh over four hundred bushels of wheat per day, which was great in those days. The year before the neighbors had fooled with a machine which they sawed off in the middle and only used the cylinder. Then they would afterwards separate the wheat from the chaff in the wind. The year before that again they used to lay the bundles on the ground in a ring and then drive the oxen over them to tramp the wheat out. The cleaning was done in the wind by holding a pailful and letting it drizzle out a little at a time, so that the wind would blow the chaff away from the wheat. This was about 1855 to 1860.

Houston County in this part is cut up with narrow valleys and those valleys were settled mostly by Norwegians. A few years later the bluffs and ridges were settled by Irish emigrants.⁸ I went up to the Irish ridges to look for threshing

⁸ Neill, in his *Houston County*, 454, records that the "settlement of the 'Ridge' in the eastern part of the town [Sheldon] was initiated by Jerry Cunningham, a native of the 'Emerald Isle,' who landed in New York in

jobs. I stopped at Mr. Cratty's for dinner. I was invited to the table and sat down. The menu was plain salt and potatoes and water. That was the first and only time that I feasted on salt and potatoes for dinner. Well, I engaged to thresh Mr. Cratty's job. Mr. Mulligan, Mr. Russell, Mr. Murphy, and others of the Irish settlement were to help him. Mr. Cratty would work hard on his own job but when he came to help his neighbor he would shirk and do as little work as possible. It made it almost impossible to thresh in the Irish settlement. The next day we moved the machine to Muldoon's farm. Mr. Cratty was then placed in the straw stack, but he did not keep the straw away so it clogged the machine. This made it very difficult to get any work done, for the farmer would work hard for himself but would shirk when he should help his neighbor.

The next year I turned my attention to contracting for building bridges. I built many and made some money. They were small bridges for the road district across small streams. They were built with four stringers and poles across, some straw on top of the poles, and then scraped dirt on top. This was quite a money-making business and I believe I would have made a successful contractor if I had followed it up.

The next fall I went to the Black River Falls pinery. A bunch of us young fellows walked all the way from La Crosse to Neillsville.⁹ It was a long, tedious walk in stormy weather. The camp was a house about three feet high on each side and had a very peaked roof. The entrance or door was in the gable end. There was a big fire in the middle of the house with a big opening in the center of the room for the smoke to go out. There were sleeping bunks made on the ground with the feet turned to the big fire. There were about fifty men

1851." A few other Irishmen followed him, and the district became known as a center for Irish settlement.

⁹ This town is in Clark County, Wisconsin, about seventy miles northeast of La Crosse.

in the camp of all nationalities. When the big logs in the fire were roaring and burning, it made good light in the shanty. There was a bench at the side of the fire, about a foot and a half high, which we sat on. When we wanted to go to bed all we had to do was to tip backwards into the bunk on the ground. There was also a big cook shanty.

Mike O'Leary and Pat Connelly had their places just opposite mine. They used to bother the life almost out of a German by the name of Garbush, who was a simpleton. Sometimes they told him to open his mouth and looked down his throat, and they used to say that they could see sauerkraut in his throat. They abused him so much and were so mean to him that he had to quit the job. My work consisted of following up the chopper and sawing the trees into logs.

The next fall I entered into partnership with another young fellow to start a saloon in Houston, Minnesota. We bought a small building and lot, and stocked up with liquor. There was some parleying between us as to what should be the name of the firm. We had read in the papers that when O'Bryan first came over he had an O to his name so big that you could roll a barrel through it, but after a few years in this country it grew smaller, and a few years later he dropped it altogether. So we thought it was a good idea to drop the "son" from our names. Consequently, the firm name was styled Steener and Hawkins. There were many good customers. I mostly took charge of the business end of the firm. Mr. Hawkins played the violin and was an expert at card playing, and the business went along nicely. In those days whiskey was cheap and it was not seldom that a farmer bought a whole barrel at harvest time and set it up on the outside wall of his house and let those who wanted to drink help themselves.

In our saloon we had a bedroom partitioned off. We had a customer by the name of Michael, who used to spree for a week or two at a time when he got started. As it was Christ-

mas and both of us wanted to go away to some dances in the country, we concluded to lock Michael up in the bedroom until we got back. We happened to stay away longer than we expected to and after a few hours Michael woke up in the bedroom. He was thirsty and hungry and there he was a prisoner. He told us later that he had made up his mind to die there of hunger and thirst. When we came home and unlocked the room, he was so glad and happy that tears came from his eyes. He petted us and said, "God bless you byes. I thought I was going to die here."

There were some "smart Alecks" in town by the names of Ramsdell, Flinn, McCarthy, Flaerty, Flannigan, and Muldoon. One day someone heard them talking between themselves. They asked one and the other if they had seen "them two Narrwiggins" who had started that saloon. One fellow, who had not been in this country very long, inquired what kind of people "them Narrwiggins" were and if they would eat hay. Muldoon answered that they would eat straw, too. "Well," said Flannigan, "let us go over to their saloon some evening and have a good time, get free drinks, and clean out the saloon." "Yes," said McCarthy, "those Narrwiggins are cowards and one of us can drive off a barnyard full of them." "Well," said one of them, "we will go over to their saloon next Saturday evening and take what whiskey we want to drink and chase them out."

We had been informed of their talk by a friend of ours and we got ready for them; the lamp was lit and Mr. Hawkins took his place behind the bar ready to wait on customers that might come. I took my place at the end of the bar with a stove poker hid in front of me under the bar and with one hand on it ready for the emergency. The stove poker was made from a twisted lightning rod about two and one-half feet long with three-cornered sharp edges. Pretty soon, the party of six came in through the door and went up to the bar

and demanded the drinks for the crowd. Mr. Hawkins set out the glasses and bottles and the drinking began. Several drinks had been served but no pay offered. Then they commenced to smash some of the glasses and spill the whiskey. They shoved each other over the stove and, after a little, the stove began to tip over. Then I took a firm grip on the stove poker, which I had had my hand on all the time. I then moved forward quick as a flash and plied my stove poker to the right and left over them, cutting gashes in their heads and shoulders. They fell right and left, and as soon as they came to their feet again they made for the door and I after them with the poker in my hand. One fellow, when he was outside of the door, took hold of an empty beer keg and raised it and was going to knock in the front window. I then gave him a powerful blow over the arm and he fell on his knees. He got up again double quick and ran for dear life. That ended the raid that night. The next morning I took my stove poker and laid it on the end of a log and straightened it out with a hammer and it was as good as ever.

The next Monday morning we were arrested and taken before Justice of the Peace McGinty. After some hard pleading I got permission to go and get an attorney. I went by train to La Crosse, a distance of twenty miles, to hunt up a lawyer. I was careful not to employ anyone with an "O" or a "Mac" to his name, and I succeeded in getting a good one. We had a hearing next day, took a change of venue to the next nearest justice, and got cleared.

There was an outbreak of the Indians in western Minnesota. They murdered men, women, and children around New Ulm and Fort Ridgely. A big scare came as far east as Houston County. We, as the rest of the neighbors, loaded up and started, and left the growing crops and cattle on the farm. We drove as far as La Crescent on the Mississippi River. The road was lined with teams and wagons loaded with women

and children, and there were thousands in camp at La Crescent. They tried to cross the Mississippi, but were not allowed to cross over to the Wisconsin side, for it was claimed that the Indians had already been put down by the soldiers. After a few days they all returned to their farms.

In the spring of 1869 I started for the West to take up a land claim. Another young fellow and I had a prairie schooner each, and we wended our way through southern Minnesota until we reached Lac qui Parle County.¹⁰ I took a claim just below where the Lac qui Parle River enters into the Minnesota River.¹¹ There was an Indian corn plantation on the bottom where I intended to take out papers on the land. It was in a large bend of the Minnesota River and was covered with big timber — large elms that would cut many cords of wood each. This was in July, 1869. There was a French squaw man living near by, and he could talk with the Indians. I made a bargain with him to help me get the land and paid him some money. There were no Indians who wanted the land, but they had been in the habit of putting in small patches of corn on it. I think there were as many as twenty small patches of corn in size about a half acre each on the land. As I stood on the big hill to the south of it and looked at all those corn patches with the large timber as a background, it was quite a

¹⁰ This county was not established until March 6, 1871. In 1869 it was a part of Chippewa County.

¹¹ The Norwegian settlement in the upper Minnesota Valley, of which Steenerson was one of the founders, became very large. From Delhi to Louisburg it stretches for fifty miles along both sides of the Minnesota River, covering large parts of Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Renville, Swift, and Redwood counties. Taking Montevideo for a center, there are, no doubt, more Norwegian farmers living within a radius of twenty miles than within an equal distance of any other town in America. This settlement is the subject of seven articles by the writer in the *Decorah-Posten* (Decorah, Iowa) for April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and May 7 and 14, 1920; they form part of a series entitled, "Norske pionerer og settlementer." — *Hjalmar R. Holand*

sight to see. Each piece of corn was hoed and kept clean by the squaw while the buck was inside his tent, smoking his pipe. For each piece of corn there was a tepee.¹²

Western Minnesota from Redwood Falls westward was entirely uninhabited. There was not a house to be seen. I drove with a yoke of oxen and a lumber wagon to Greenleaf where the land office was located and I took out papers on the land which the Indians were cultivating, as no one of them claimed title to it. The distance to Greenleaf was seventy miles.¹³

I built a shanty on the land and was on good terms with the Indians. But in the fall a half-breed with a big family — his name was Joe La Blan — started to build a shanty in my timber.¹⁴ I told him it was my land and that I had papers for it, and I told him he had better move his shanty to the next claim to the west. He objected. Then I took my oxen down to his shanty and hitched a chain to the corner of his shanty

¹² The Sioux Indians were removed from Minnesota after the outbreak of 1862, but William W. Folwell, in his *Minnesota, The North Star State*, 233 (*American Commonwealths*—Boston, 1908), states that "a small remnant of some twenty-five families of friendlies, many of them Christians, were suffered to remain in Minnesota, because they could not safely live among the heathen people." The fact that Napeshneeduta (see *post*, n. 15) was one of the Lac qui Parle group indicates that the presence of these Indians in the state in 1869 can be explained in this way.

¹³ One of the seven United States land offices in Minnesota in 1869 was located in this little village in Meeker County. In the following year the land office for this district was moved to Litchfield. United States General Land Office, *Reports*, 1869, p. 236; 1870, p. 290.

¹⁴ The census of the town of Lac qui Parle, Chippewa County, taken in June, 1870, includes the names of Joe La Blane, a trapper forty years old, his wife, Hapanami, and their three children, two sons and a daughter, respectively seventeen, sixteen, and fourteen years of age. The description corresponds with Steenerson's fairly well in all respects except one: according to the census La Blane and his wife were white. Judging from the wife's name, however, she might well have been a squaw. State archives, secretary of state's office, census schedules, 1870. These schedules are now in the custody of the Minnesota Historical Society.

and started the oxen up. They pulled the shanty down. Joe La Blan came out of his tepee near by with a loaded double-barreled shotgun, and threatened to shoot me. I told him, if he shot me there would come many white people to kill him. He stood there with the gun in his hand, and his daughter stood by his side begging him not to shoot. She was a girl of about eighteen years and nearly white. I told him that if he would take the claim to the west of me, I would haul his shanty up to that claim. He stood a while thinking and, after a moment, he said, "All right, I will do so." So I loaded up the logs of his shanty and put them onto my wagon. The logs were only large poles from three to four inches at the top. Joe La Blan was a French half-breed about fifty years old. He had large grey whiskers and might have been taken for a Hebrew.

The breeds and Indians used to roam up and down the Minnesota River Valley for several hundred miles, and when cold weather overtook them they would put up a camp in some thick timber. Joe had no intention of interfering with my right to the claim. When I got him to take a claim, I advised him well, for the next spring some parties came up from Iowa and paid him three hundred dollars and a shotgun for his right.

The next summer I lived on my claim in a small log shanty. All the Indian families, numbering perhaps fifty to sixty, lived in tepees on Joe La Blan's land. He was my neighbor. One night, I remember, I woke up in the night. I heard some noise outside. I was alone. I got up and peeped out of the door and there I saw all the Indians gathered around my shanty. It was dark. I thought my end had come and that they had come to murder me. I asked one who could speak English what was the matter. He answered and said that they had heard some noise across the Lac qui Parle River, and that they thought it was the Chippewa Indians on the war

path after them. My neighbors were Dakota or Sioux. They stood and moved around for a while until daylight, and no Chippewa Indians could be seen. So they went back to their tepees, which were only about eighty rods from my shanty. They had been mistaken, I think.

Along in the latter part of the summer the old chief Napashniduta died. He was a good Indian, something over ninety years old. I was at the funeral. He was placed in a rough box of boards, and I helped to load it onto my wagon and hauled him to the top of the hill, where a grave was dug, and the coffin was placed in the grave. His pipe, hatchet, and other things that belonged to him were thrown into the grave. Those standing around took it coolly and no tears were shed. Thus ended the career of Napashniduta.¹⁵

In the fall I was to pay for my preëmption claim and get a deed from the government on my holdings. It took nearly three hundred dollars and it was not an easy thing to raise so much money. I had been offered \$160 for my nice young well-broken yoke of oxen, but I wanted \$175. The time drew near when I had to raise the money. My neighbor was going to drive a herd to Minneapolis, so I sent my oxen with him. He came back and gave me only \$80. He said that was all he got. I felt sorry for those young red and white spotted oxen,

¹⁵ Napashneeduta was the first full-blooded Dakota man to join a Christian church. He was baptized at Lac qui Parle on February 21, 1840, when he took the name of Joseph Napeshnee. Some years later he removed to Little Crow's village below Fort Snelling. During the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 he was friendly to the whites and in the following spring he was engaged as a government scout. Finally he returned to Lac qui Parle, where he lived, respected for his piety and industry by whites and Indians alike, until his death in July, 1870. For nearly ten years he was a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church. Frederick W. Hodge, *Handbook of American Indians*, part 2, p. 27 (Bureau of American Ethnology, *Bulletins*, no. 30—Washington, 1910); Thomas S. Williamson, "Napehshneedoota: The First Male Dakota Convert to Christianity," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 3: 188-191 (St. Paul, 1880).

they were so gentle and well-broken. They had drawn me in a prairie schooner clear across the state. Well, I had raised some potatoes that I sold, and I managed to scratch up enough to pay the government, and I received papers on the land. It was a valuable piece of land, about one hundred acres of timber, which could be sold to prairie settlers for forty to fifty dollars per acre. I sold some for cash, but buyers did not come as readily as I expected. I proceeded to survey the land out into lots of from three to five acres. The prairie on both sides of the river was taken up by this time by settlers, and there was some demand for timber. I sold a few lots to the settlers. There happened to be a man in the village of Lac qui Parle, who had a little frame building in which he was running a saloon. One day he stumped me for a trade in timber lots. After some bargaining we made the deal. He was to get the deed of some timber lots and I was to get his building in town, with the stock of liquor in running order.

Well, the time passed along. I sold whiskey by the drink, pint, quart, and gallon. Along in the winter came a half-breed from St. Paul. He had driven up by team — there was no railroad at that time¹⁶ — and he was going to Big Stone Lake, he said, to buy scrip from the Indians.¹⁷ His name was Bill

¹⁶ The village of Lac qui Parle is still without a railroad. The railroad entered the county at the extreme southeast corner in 1884. Lyrurgus R. Moyer and Ole G. Dale, eds., *History of Chippewa and Lac qui Parle Counties, Minnesota*, 1: 477 (Indianapolis, 1916).

¹⁷ Under the provisions of a law passed by Congress in 1854, scrip which entitled the holder to appropriate about 480 acres of land not already occupied or surveyed was issued to Sioux half-breeds. Land thus located was to replace each individual's share of the reservation which at an earlier time had been set aside for the half-breeds near Lake Pepin, and which now was thrown open for settlement. A provision in the law "that 'no transfer or conveyance of any of said certificates or scrip shall be valid' was easily circumvented, and they proved to be convenient vehicles for the transfer of valuable lands from government to private ownership, in advance of surveys." *United States Statutes at Large*, 10: 304; William W. Folwell, *A History of Minnesota*, 1: 324, 482-486 (St. Paul, 1921).

Quinn.¹⁸ He had seventeen hundred dollars in cash in his pocket book. He came into my saloon often and treated the crowd, no matter how many there were or how few. He would throw a five-dollar bill on the counter and did not want any change. When I gave him change back, he would throw it on the dirty floor and tramp on it. So I learned after a while to please him and never gave him change, but slipped the bill into the money drawer and set up the drinks. This pleased him entirely.

One day he started to drive to Big Stone Lake. He drove along on the ice of Lac qui Parle Lake. Some miles out he came to a lot of fishermen, who were fishing through the ice. He had a good time there for awhile, drinking whiskey and talking. And there he lost his pocket book with the seventeen hundred dollars in it. But, luckily, one of the fishermen found it in the snow and gave it back to the owner.

So he proceeded on to Big Stone Lake and in about a week or ten days he was back again. He brought his son and his son's sweetheart with him. They were pretty good-looking half-breed Indians. He said he had caught them wild on an island in Big Stone Lake and wanted to "buckle them up" and marry them. So he bought ten gallons of whiskey and ten gallons of cherry brandy. I was invited to the wedding, which was held at the house of a French squaw man, who lived down the river a few miles. The next thing was to send for a justice of the peace to "buckle them up," as he said. A New England Yankee was sent for. His name was Mr. Stowell, and he performed the ceremony. But Mr. Quinn was in such a hurry that he sang out between drinks, "buckle them

¹⁸ William L. Quinn was a well-known scout, trader, and Indian interpreter. Following the Sioux Outbreak he was employed as a government scout, and he served in this capacity until 1870. It is possible that he was sent to Big Stone Lake by parties in St. Paul who were interested in securing scrip. Accounts of Quinn's career appear in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for April 29, 1894, and for March 7, 1906.

up, buckle them up," and then again he would jig and laugh. Well, after it was done Quinn said he was so glad that they were "buckled up." We had a good time at the wedding. Some were drinking, some dancing, and others talking. It was a sort of cosmopolitan gathering. There were Dakota Indians talking with the lady of the house around the cook stove. There were the squaw man and old Bushma talking French. There were Fritz and Rosenbaum talking German. There were Ole Olson and John Johnson talking Norwegian. They were all enjoying a trot sling and a conversation between themselves, while Bill Quinn was dancing with a glass in his hand, to the music of the violin played by the half-breed, Joe Laframboise.¹⁹ A more pleasant and jolly time I have never enjoyed.

In the spring I sold out my business — building, lot, and all — and secured some land on the prairie and proceeded to build and open a prairie farm. I was a single man and lived alone in a log house which I had erected. I had no stock that first winter and had plenty of time to read. I subscribed for a paper by the name of *Dagslyset* published by Markus Thrane in Chicago.²⁰ It was an eye-opener to me. It was a free-

¹⁹ Joseph Laframboise is best known for his activities during the Sioux Massacre of 1862. Accompanied by an Indian, John Other Day, he informed the white people living at and about the Yellow Medicine Agency of their danger, and, subsequently, he was responsible for the rescue of numerous pioneer settlers in the upper Minnesota Valley. In 1863 he was a member of the Sibley expedition against the Sioux. *Sketches Historical and Descriptive of the Monuments and Tablets Erected by the Minnesota Valley Historical Society in Renville and Redwood Counties*, 68-71 (Morton, Minnesota, 1902).

²⁰ Markus Thrane was the leader of the labor and socialist movement which followed the revolution of 1848 in Norway. The movement was suppressed by the government and in 1854 the leaders were imprisoned, Thrane remaining in confinement for four years. Several years after his release he came to America, where he continued to disseminate his revolutionary ideas by means of a series of publications. In the New World, however, he focused his attacks upon the church rather than the state. All of his work as an author and publisher was done at Chicago. *Dagsly-*

thought paper and hit the nail on the head every time. I also sent for several books of the liberal kind, such as the writings of Darwin, Spencer, and Ingersoll. After long study I moved out of the orthodox faith and into the faith of Robert Ingersoll, and I must say that it seemed a great relief to get rid of the fear of hell and damnation. It took a long time to free myself of the superstitions which had been instilled into me, but I gradually did so, and I felt like a bird getting out of a cage or a slave set free. I felt better and slept better, for it is horrible to think that some people's souls are tortured in eternity without end. After I changed my faith the world seemed different to me; and today, after forty years without an orthodox faith, I feel assured of a peaceful sleep in all future eternity.

I next got into politics and ran for sheriff of Chippewa County and was elected.²¹ The country was on the frontier and horse thieves and bank robbers were plentiful in those early days. At one time I with a posse of men chased two horse thieves. They had stolen four fine horses. We were in hot pursuit after them and caught them in the timber on the Minnesota River. They refused to surrender. We fired on them and after a long battle both of them were shot and died. Two of my men were wounded and I got a bullet through my left arm but none of us was wounded seriously.

set (The Light of Day), the free-thought monthly which so profoundly influenced Steenerson, Thrane founded in 1869, and it appeared intermittently until 1875. He also published from 1865 to 1866 *Den Norske Amerikaner* (The Norwegian-American), the predecessor of *Skandinaven* (The Scandinavian), and in the late seventies he edited *Den Nye Tid* (The New Age). His *Wisconsin-Biblen*, a satiric attack in Biblical form on the Norwegian-American clergy, passed through numerous editions. He died in 1890. An excellent sketch of Thrane and his work appears in an article by Johannes B. Wist, entitled "Pressen efter borgerkrigen," which is published in that author's *Norsk-Amerikanernes Festskrift 1914*, 91-93 (Decorah, Iowa, 1914).

²¹ Steenerson was elected in 1876 and he resigned on July 18, 1877. Moyer and Dale, *Chippewa and La qui Parle Counties*, 1 : 104.

In the year 1876 swarms of grasshoppers appeared in the country. They were flying in the air so thick sometimes that you could not see the sun on a clear day. The fences were lined with them. They devoured the grass and crops of all descriptions.²² The machine companies had sold many implements to the settlers, but many of the settlers left their farms never to come back, for starvation stared them in the face. So I was ordered by the agents of the machine companies to gather up the seeders, mowers, reapers, etc., and haul them into Montevideo, the county seat. I had enough machinery to cover an acre or two for sale. I had a sale now and then, but there were no bidders except the agents themselves, who bid them in for the company. In a year or two the country straightened out again, crops were raised, and the people prospered again.

By this time I was looking around for a better half. I happened to have a summons to be served. On the trip, I happened to drop into a house on the prairie, where a beautiful girl was sitting on the sofa. I talked some with the old folks and took a glance at the girl now and then. The old man had just sold a farm in southern Minnesota and had arrived a few weeks before. He had taken a claim there several miles from any neighbors. The nearest railroad was seventy-five miles away. I went often afterwards to see the girl and she came to be my wife. We raised a big family of boys and girls.²³

I next traded off my prairie farm for a general store with several thousand dollars worth of stock. I ran along and did

²² Rocky Mountain locusts first appeared in Minnesota in large numbers in 1873. Swarms of these insects continued each summer to devour the crops, especially in the southwestern counties of the state, until 1877, when, during the months of June and July, they disappeared. Folwell, *Minnesota*, 290, 304-307.

²³ Before her marriage, which took place in 1876, Mrs. Steenerson was Miss Maria Anderson, the daughter of Sivert Anderson. The family had previously lived in Goodhue County.

a big business, but later closed out the store. I ran a large peddling wagon along the new line that was being built from Montevideo to Aberdeen.²⁴ One day I struck a camp west of where Milbank now stands. There I found my friend Wilson. He was peddling whiskey. It was Sunday and the crew was taking a rest and a spree. Wilson had two full whiskey barrels on his wagon. The boys had taken one wheel off the wagon and sunk it in the middle of the lake close by, and there Wilson was and could not get anywhere, and the railroad graders were having a big time with his stock of whiskey. The whiskey was passed around in dippers and cups. Mr. Wilson drank with them and seemed to enjoy it. South Dakota was then a trackless prairie without a farm or village in those parts.

In 1871 a party set out in prairie schooners for the Red River Valley. There were nine covered wagons. Some of the members of the party had families. We aimed to take up land on the Red River with timber on it. The first two or three days went along all right. When we came to Elbow Lake late one evening, we unhitched the oxen close by the lake.²⁵ Grazing was good. There had been a fence constructed and there were some chips lying by the road. We picked them together and made a little camp fire for cooking. As we were standing by the fire, along came a man that owned the fence.

²⁴ The Hastings and Dakota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad reached Montevideo in 1878; it was extended to Ortonville in 1879; and it was completed to Aberdeen in July, 1881. Minnesota Railroad Commissioner, *Annual Reports*, 1878, p. 13; 1879, p. 9; George W. Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, 2: 1207 (Chicago, 1915).

²⁵ This lake is several miles northwest of the town of the same name in Grant County. The town was not established until 1874. One of the trails regularly used by traders who traveled between Pembina and St. Paul, via St. Cloud, passed Elbow Lake. Warren Upham, *Minnesota Geographic Names: Their Origin and Historic Significance*, 214, 217 (*Minnesota Historical Collections*, vol. 17—St. Paul, 1920).

The man raised his hand up in the air with a big butcher knife in it, and was in the act of plunging it into me, but suddenly my companion, who was standing by me, hit him over the arm with the whipstock with the result that the knife fell out of his hand to the ground. The man then retreated and went to Fergus Falls, some thirty-five miles, and had all nine of us arrested the next day and taken into Fergus Falls. We were then fined seven dollars a piece, which was costs and all. Although we had done nothing, it was cheaper to pay than to monkey with a lawsuit. Fergus Falls was about a year old and without a railroad.²⁶ The man that gave us the trouble was a one-eyed man by the name of Brown.

Well, after the rumpus that we had had, we proceeded along down the Red River on the Minnesota side. There were no settlers except now and then a stopping place for the stage which was running along the Red River.²⁷ These were about thirty or forty miles apart. At Georgetown the stage road crossed the river over to the Dakota side, but we went right ahead down on the Minnesota side of the Red River without any road whatever. When we came to the Wild Rice River we felled some trees across the river and made a kind of a bridge, so as to get our teams and wagons across. We proceeded further down the river a few miles and then the cara-

²⁶ Fergus Falls was located and named in 1856, but the first permanent settlers did not arrive until ten years later. The platting of the town in 1870 was followed by a general influx of settlers. The first railroad reached Fergus Falls in 1879. John W. Mason, ed., *History of Otter Tail County, Minnesota*, 1: 281, 480-489 (Indianapolis, 1916).

²⁷ The stage began running over this route some twelve years before Steenserson's journey. In 1859 the Minnesota Stage Company was organized by J. C. Burbank, Russel Blakeley, and their associates, for the purpose of instituting stage service between St. Cloud and Fort Abercrombie. The line was extended in the following year to Georgetown, and in 1871 to Winnipeg. *History of the Red River Valley, Past and Present*, 1: 570 (Chicago, 1909); Russell Blakeley, "Opening of the Red River of the North to Commerce and Civilization," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 8: 50, 63, 64 (St. Paul, 1898).

van stopped, and we each located on a claim about a half a mile to a mile apart in the edge of the timber that skirted the river. Some of those parties are living on the same lands to-day. Some of them have passed away to the unknown land from which no one comes back to tell us anything.²⁸

²⁸ This group of settlers and another group which had arrived a week earlier combined to form the nucleus of the population of Polk County, for, although the county was established in 1858, no permanent settlers located there previous to June, 1871. All the settlers who arrived at this time were induced to seek homes in Polk County by Levi Steenerson, a brother of Knute. They located on lands south of the Sand Hill River, in what are now Hubbard and Vineland townships. The fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of this settlement was celebrated by the pioneers of the region on June 8, 1921. See *post*, p. 195.

Steenerson selected a homestead in Vineland township near the present village of Climax, but he soon abandoned it and returned to Chippewa County. His residence there was again interrupted in 1877 by a brief sojourn in Fargo, North Dakota, where he ran a hotel. After about two years he again went back to Chippewa County, but he was not satisfied to remain there for long. He was a wanderer by nature, constantly in search of new frontiers and new occupations. During the last forty years of his life Steenerson lived in several places in Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Oklahoma. A period of nearly twenty years was spent on a farm near Upham, North Dakota. His vocation varied with his residence, and he was occupied at different times as a newspaper publisher, a merchant, a real estate dealer, and a farmer. In the fall of 1920 his habitual restlessness led him to go to San Diego, California, for the winter, and there he died on February 12, 1921. The information for the foregoing sketch was furnished by Mr. Elias Steenerson of Crookston.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

A History of Minnesota. BY WILLIAM WATTS FOLWELL. Volume 1. (St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1921. xxii, 533 p.)

In discussing this notable contribution to historical scholarship, it may border on the trivial to speak of manner before matter, but the first comment of readers of the volume, so far as this reviewer has chanced to talk with them, is always a reference to the charm of its "literary style." That inadequate phrase is well meant. The book has charm. It is a triumph of style; but the style is not particularly literary. It is — infinitely better — the easy self-expression of a delightful and cultured personality possessed of perfect mastery of his subject — *self-expression* not because the author was thinking about self or about expression, but because he wasn't. For all those readers acquainted with Dr. Folwell the book makes its appeal to consciousness less through the eye directly than through an inner ear. To those who have had that rich experience, each page of the five hundred carries vivid suggestions of a living and well-loved voice, with its familiar gracious inflections and modulations and happy turns of phrase, now of genial humor, now of sympathetic appreciation of human frailties, now of generous but never unbalanced enthusiasm for such nobility and heroism as mingle with our clay. Said one of the "old boys" the other day, — one with a "literary style" of his own, — "Through the whole book I just hear 'Bil-ly' talk."

I am unwilling to turn finally from the matter of style without noting the restful sense of spacious leisure that pervades the book. And our debt should be acknowledged also to Dr. Folwell's unfailing eye for telling phrases by other men. Time and again, from the bushels of dusty and prosy correspondence that he has waded through, he dredges up for us a sentence red-hot with feeling or gleaming with significance. It adds to gaiety of heart to find one founder of the commonwealth writing to Frank-

lin Steele, apropos of the amazing land-grab in the 1857 "sale" of the Fort Snelling reservation: "I think you and Rice ought to have let me into that Fort Snelling affair, as we started the game together" (p. 513, n. 93); or another cautioning a friend regarding entry of the scandalous half-breed scrip: "Much more land than the scrip calls for can be obtained by *management*. Get ——— to go to the surveyor general with you" (p. 484, n. 39).

The use of the blank in the last quotation is perhaps rather too characteristic. I have noticed in the volume six other cases of intentional suppression of a name connected with some more or less disreputable incident. True, in most cases a curious inquirer could trace the missing names from the context or from the circumlocutions employed, and probably they are of no historical consequence anyway. Still the obvious trouble taken to avoid saying "John Smith" arouses apprehension in some readers. Dr. Folwell is absolutely fearless, and, in his province of investigator, he has gone to the bottom of every unsavory mess that obtruded itself upon his study; but he has a gentleman's aversion to mud-slinging. The next volume of his history will disclose whether this quality, together with his native kindliness and a natural and honorable reluctance to bespatter former associates, especially when they no longer can make defense, is impairing the historical value of his work. His task is no easy one.

Dr. Folwell came to the state in 1869 as president of the incipient University of Minnesota, an eager young scholar who had tasted the best fruit of American and European culture and who had given evidence of practical power by winning rapid promotion during the Civil War as an officer of engineers in the Army of the Potomac. More than forty years later he retired from public employment at an age already in excess of the Biblical span, still vigorous and alert in mind and body and with the mellowing wisdom that the passing seasons bestow upon such happily constituted souls. For congenial employment to fill his remaining years, he then turned at once to the study and presentation of the history of the state of which, Æneas-like, he himself has been so large a part. Soon afterward he published a brief *Minnesota* in the *American Commonwealths* series — "an agree-

able recreation for which I trust to be forgiven," reads his modest reference to it in his "Apology" to this larger work. And certainly, despite many excellences, that early study gave little suggestion of the painstaking and scrupulous investigation and of the ripe historical method that have gone, during the intervening years, to the preparation of the present volume.

When Dr. Folwell began this study fifteen years ago, at seventy-four, he would have been the first to disclaim for himself the name "historian." Today, in addition to his greater honors, he has earned in fullest measure whatever glory that title carries. He had long since become so well known as an administrator and as a student of political science that perhaps, at first, pardonable misgivings arose in the breasts of some historical specialists at his invasion of their chosen field. It should be enough to remind any such that our author, on the basis of an unusually wide acquaintance with allied subjects and with books and men, has now served to Clio herself a longer and a stricter apprenticeship than is ordinarily thought needful to prepare the innocent mind of a callow youth for some *magnum opus*. Let us rejoice that now and then we are blessed with a specialist bigger than his speciality.

The volume is authentic, authoritative, adequate. As a history of the beginnings of an American commonwealth, it is almost unique in its completeness and finality. The long, painstaking investigation of material, printed, manuscript, and oral, has been carried through with the zeal of a closeted scholar; and to the interpretation of the results, the author has brought the practical insight and consummate balance of judgment and the understanding of the complex web of human motive, that can belong only to a man of affairs.

The first ninety pages are given to the two centuries of exploration in the Northwest before the year 1800. That legendary personage, the average reader, will probably care least for this part of the book. Critics, too, may find it least completely satisfying. And yet here we have a varied panorama of farsighted explorer, devoted missionary, daring and greedy trader, and the tribal warfare of Sioux and Ojibway. The adventurous heroism of a La Salle, a Du Luth, or a Hennepin receives its due, but it

is not permitted to blind the reader to other more universal traits. An historian of early Virginia, I remember, is somewhere constrained to acknowledge that the imagination of the worthy Captain John Smith "did sometimes transcend the narrow limits of fact." These almost contemporary heroes and martyrs of the Northwest reveal themselves possessed of equally robust imaginations, each for his own achievements, along with a more discreditable disposition to diminish one another's fame. Says Dr. Folwell, after a critical comparison of early personal narratives: "Whoever looks for candor and generosity in the writings of the early explorers, clerical and lay, will be disappointed. Those writings may be said to *contain truth*" (p. 31).

With chapter 5 we come to the story of Minnesota proper. Fifty pages serve to present the explorations by agents of the United States government within the borders of the future state and the establishment of the military post at Fort Snelling. Nearly a fourth of this space goes to a vivid account of the determination of the true source of the Mississippi, with a necessary excursus to cover the final settlement of the question after the fraudulent Glazier claim had reawakened controversy in 1881. I cannot refrain from calling attention, regretfully, to certain language of the author here (p. 127). After stern and just condemnation of the "unconscionable adventurer," the text continues: "It became necessary . . . for the legislature of Minnesota to forbid the use in the schools of the state of any textbook recognizing the claim of this pretended discoverer." This act of the Minnesota legislators does not exactly go on all fours with legislation proposed in a sister state to forbid the use of texts teaching the theory of evolution; but it is at least an altogether unnecessary intrusion of legislative authority into the field of science, and we should have expected Dr. Folwell's wording to avoid appearance of approval.

To return to our history — chapter 7 presents adequately the interesting but rather tragic story of early Protestant missions among the Minnesota Indians; and chapter 8 pictures the coming of the first true white settlers — traders, lumbermen, and finally farmers — until 1849, when we see a few hundred inhabitants distributed among Stillwater, St. Paul, St. Anthony, and a few

smaller stations like Mendota and Marine, with a dubious and shifting population of half-breeds in the distant Pembina district. Through the remaining half of the book the sweep of the story broadens and deepens to its real culmination in the dramatic account of the unique struggle over the formation of the state constitution in 1857 (chapter 15). Here, in the interest of all the unities, this volume should have found its period. The following and concluding chapter on the Fort Snelling reservation bears the character of a somewhat awkward addendum, forced in at this point, one may suppose, by editorial considerations of space. That story, too, has interest enough; but it comes upon a stage all set for other actors.

A few high-lights remain for acknowledgment. The cession of their Minnesota lands in 1851 by the Sioux is quite as fit a subject for story and song and the artist's brush as was ever the much besung treaty of William Penn. The story of the treaty of Traverse des Sioux, despite its discussion in some excellent monographs, has never before become a part of the literature of America. Here is one of the most striking illustrations in all our history of the dominating influence of the frontier trader in controlling the relations between our government and its "wards." Without the traders' secret influence, no appropriations from Congress sufficient to induce the Indians to "cede" their hunting grounds! And no treaty at all unless Congress yield to the insertion of certain "weasel" clauses, under color of which, all inside parties know in advance, the funds will go in the main, not to the nominal beneficiaries, but to the traders!

Quite as strikingly are portrayed the shameless attempts at land-grabs by certain of the fathers in connection with early railway charters, and the even more dishonest manipulation of half-breed "scrip" in the repeated location of rich pine tracts. Dr. Folwell's exposé of methods is unqualified; his indignant condemnation of the dishonesty of the thieves and of their coadjutors is outspoken (though names are spared for the most part); but it is not clear that he feels any particular sympathy for the society that was robbed of its heritage. In this volume, anyway, there is no serious attempt to indicate the amount of these stealings or to

estimate the injury that they wrought, and are wreaking, upon the later development of the commonwealth. Subsequent volumes, however, may supply the omission more effectively than is possible at this point of the story.

Presumably, we owe our thanks to Dr. Buck for securing for the publication a form so dignified, handsome, and unblemished — a joy to the reader's eye. Credit for the excellent index and maps and, in some measure, for the admirable bibliographical notes, is declared due to editorial assistants of the historical society.

WILLIS MASON WEST

The Political Career of Ignatius Donnelly. By JOHN D. HICKS.
(Reprinted from the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*,
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The wealth of available materials and the intrinsic importance of the subject make almost certain the eventual appearance of a comprehensive biography of Ignatius Donnelly. The path of the biographer has been cleared by Dr. Hicks in his recently published account of the political career of the great Minnesota "apostle of protest." In condensing a very large subject Dr. Hicks has been forced to exclude a detailed exposition of many significant and inviting episodes. But in this trail-blazing process with its resultant brevity, he has achieved a clear treatment of fundamental matters. Bringing the principal facts together into a well-knit synthesis, Dr. Hicks has sketched the career of Donnelly against its natural background, that "agrarian crusade" of which the Granger Movement, the Farmers' Alliance, and Populism were the chief manifestations in the period from 1870 to 1900. Donnelly is properly presented as a type. He is representative of that considerable element in the American population which, increasingly conscious of the inequalities generated by the advance of the industrial revolution and profoundly disturbed by those conditions which formed the basis of widespread agricultural unrest, sought relief by formulating and supporting the programs of third parties.

These programs were regarded at the time as radical. Many of the third party demands were impractical and ephemeral, and were quickly cast aside. Many others, and among them the more important, were economically sound but in advance of their time. The parties which sprang up in quick succession won few conspicuous victories. But they succeeded in jolting the complacent major parties, which were just awakening to the fact that the Civil War was over. As a result of organized agitation, the ideas for which the third parties stood gained headway, and ultimately some of them were adopted by the dominant parties which translated them into legislation. This was the great role of the radical parties, and herein lay the fundamental service of popular leaders like Ignatius Donnelly. Doubtless Donnelly did not possess that "balance wheel" which maintains equilibrium for the "safe and sane" type. He exemplified the "lunacy fringe." He was a bold iconoclast, an eager enthusiast, a radical reformer, a daring weaver of theories. But the historian writes him down as one of that band of dreamers from whose dreams "grow the realities of tomorrow." Perhaps one ought to add that many of the more fantastic of the third party demands were brought forward, not because the majority element of the third party favored them, but in order to unify all the forces of discontent and radicalism. That is, a few planks were inserted in order to win the support of that outer fringe of lunacy, the species commonly known as "cranks."

That the third party movements sprang from real economic grievances and that they stood for many sound reforms, the legislation of the last thirty years both in state and nation affords ample evidence. As Dr. Hicks points out, "Many have almost forgotten that once it was only the lunacy fringe which advocated the abolition of slavery, the regulation of railway rates, the control of the trusts, the rights of labor, the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, equal suffrage for men and women, and the prohibition of the liquor traffic." Dr. Hicks asserts that Donnelly was not a radical as judged by the standards of our times. "His final appeal was always to the ballot-box." He was a radical as judged by contemporary standards, however.

In the course of his research Dr. Hicks has utilized the Donnelly Papers, an important manuscript collection owned by the Minnesota Historical Society. The unique and rich materials in this collection have been supplemented by research in the files of newspapers of the Northwest covering the period from the late sixties to approximately 1900. All statements of fact are scrupulously anchored down by exact footnote references to sources.

Dr. Hicks describes Donnelly as a distinctly western type. Of Irish origin, he was born in Philadelphia, received a good schooling, read law with Benjamin Bristow, and in 1856, at the age of twenty-five, adopted the advice which Horace Greeley is supposed to have given. Three years after his arrival in Minnesota Donnelly was lieutenant governor of the state. In 1863 he was elected congressman. After six years in Congress he returned to Minnesota, and about this time he began to exhibit signs of dissatisfaction with the regular Republican party, with which he had thus far affiliated. An independent in 1870, he supported Horace Greeley in 1872, became a Granger in 1873, and was elected to the state senate. In 1874 he began the publication of the *Anti-Monopolist*, a newspaper in which he waged vigorous and unrelenting war against monopoly and "plutocracy." He was soon drawn into the Greenback fold and again ran for Congress. Defeated in politics he turned his hand to the writing of books. He was as much a literary as a political rebel. Among many curious and original works which he published none attracted so much attention as his double-decked, pseudo-scientific attempt to prove, by means of *The Great Cryptogram* that Bacon wrote the Shakespearean plays.

After dealing briefly, perhaps too briefly, with the literary side of Donnelly's career, Dr. Hicks traces the activity of Donnelly through the period of the Farmers' Alliance and finally that of the Populist movement, analyzing carefully the part that he played in those phases of the farmers' crusade. While Dr. Hicks contributes some new facts to the general knowledge of the Farmers' Alliance, the reviewer feels that the Alliance background of Donnelly's career at this stage might perhaps have been brought out more fully. It is to be hoped that the author will eventually

produce a comprehensive monograph on the Farmers' Alliance in the Northwest. A book on this subject is needed. In fact a complete study of the Farmers' Alliance is a desideratum; Dr. Solon J. Buck has adequately dealt with the Granger movement, but no similar work on the Alliance has appeared.

Dr. Hicks concludes his study with a discriminating estimate of Donnelly's personal characteristics and of his career as a whole. That it is quite possible to write an account at once thoroughly scientific in character and very interesting to read, Dr. Hicks has demonstrated in a praiseworthy manner. But he has done more than this. He has given to historical students a scholarly and well-written study of an important figure in the history of the Northwest, and has made a substantial contribution to knowledge of one not unimportant phase of the history of the United States.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

"An Illustrated Ramble through Minnesota History" was the subject of a talk by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock Jr., curator of the museum, at an open session held in connection with the stated meeting of the executive council on the evening of October 10, 1921. With the aid of the society's new stereopticon and reflectoscope, Mr. Babcock exhibited selections from the society's extensive collection of pictures illustrative of Minnesota history.

A number of other organizations make use of the auditorium in the Historical Building for occasional meetings. Thus the Minnesota Garden Flower Society held a meeting there on the afternoon of April 14, 1921, which was attended by nearly two hundred persons and at which the curator of the museum spoke briefly on the work of the historical society. The room also was used by the Minnesota society of the Sons of the American Revolution for a meeting on the evening of April 19, the anniversary of the battles of Lexington and Concord. Professor Albert E. Jenks of the University of Minnesota was the speaker on this occasion and members of the Daughters of the American Revolution were honor guests. Such meetings bring to the building many people who might not otherwise become aware of its attractions.

In accord with the new provisions of the by-laws (see *ante*, 55) three members were enrolled as patrons and seven as contributing-life members prior to October 1, 1921. The patrons are Fred S. Bell of Winona, and Edward H. Cutler and Mrs. Charles P. Noyes of St. Paul. The contributing-life members are Henri J. Bernier of Oakland, California; Robert I. Farrington, Mrs. Charles E. Furness, Mrs. Andrew R. McGill, and Mr. Robert C. McGill of St. Paul; Mr. Chauncey C. McCarthy of Grand Rapids, and Mrs. John Washburn of Minneapolis.

Seventy-six people joined the society as active members during the six months ending on September 30, 1921. In the follow-

ing list the names of these new members are grouped by counties:

CHISAGO: Raymond C. Andrews of Lindstrom.

CROW WING: Charles D. Johnson of Brainerd.

DAKOTA: Edgar F. Gould of South St. Paul.

HENNEPIN: R. H. Adams, Mrs. Mary B. Aiton, Charles S. Benson, Mrs. Walter E. Camp, William Y. Chute, Mrs. Marshall H. Coolidge, Ernest T. Critchett, Henry B. Dike, George P. Douglas, Mrs. George P. Douglas, Mrs. Francis L. Frary, Charles B. Mills, Mrs. K. E. Mo, Walter S. Pardee, Mrs. William W. Remington, Harlan P. Roberts, Nils N. Rønning, Malcolm C. Shurtleff, Joseph E. Smith, Erling Swenson, Mrs. John Washburn, Mrs. William C. Whitney, and Mrs. Oscar D. Wisner, all of Minneapolis.

ITASCA: Chauncey C. McCarthy of Grand Rapids.

LAC QUI PARLE: Nathaniel Soderberg and Charles E. Peterson of Madison.

LE SUEUR: Jonas W. Root of Elysian.

MILLE LACS: Dr. Guy R. Caley of Princeton.

OLMSTED: Henry O. Christensen and John M. Rowley of Rochester.

PINE: J. Adam Bede of Pine City.

POPE: Leonard H. Pryor of Glenwood.

POLK: Andrew D. Stephens of Crookston.

RAMSEY: Livia Appel, Samuel Appleton, Elizabeth K. Clark, Beaver Wade Day, Dr. George Earl, William H. Fobes, Samuel F. Fullerton, Pierce P. Furber, John M. Geist, Oscar C. Greene, Louis W. Hill, John N. Jackson, James C. Michael, Mrs. Charles P. Noyes, Carl Schuneman, Kenneth O. Snortum, John J. Watson, and William L. West, all of St. Paul.

RICE: Arthur L. Keith and Walter M. Patton of Northfield.

ST. LOUIS: Marshall W. Alworth, Luther B. Arnold, William D. Bailey, Arthur H. Brown, Fred W. Buck, William A. Cant, C. Francis Colman, John H. Darling, Bert Fesler, Francis J. O'Donnell, William I. Prince, William Prindle, Philip L. Ray, Herbert R. Spencer, John D. Stryker, and Coryate S. Wilson, all of Duluth.

TODD: Mrs. Lydia De Laurier of Long Prairie.

WASECA: Edward A. Everett and Guy W. Everett of Waseca.

NON-RESIDENT: Reverend Carl Kraft of Rock Island, Illinois.

The society lost twelve active members by death during the six months ending September 30, 1921: Charles W. Ames of St. Paul, April 3; Michael J. Dowling of Olivia, April 25; Charles P. Noyes of St. Paul, April 30; George A. Brackett of Minneapolis, May 17; Henry Wadsworth of Glencoe, May 29; Henry L. Simons of Glencoe, June 13; Ambrose Guiterman of St. Paul, June 17; John Espy of St. Paul, July 9; Albert R. Moore of St. Paul, July 19; Neil Currie of St. Paul, August 4; Frank L. Randall of Minneapolis, August 5; and Victor M. Watkins of St. Paul, September 19; also one honorary member, George F. Wright of Oberlin, Ohio, April 20.

The society's offer to enroll public and school libraries in Minnesota as subscribers to its publications on the same terms as those of annual individual membership was accepted by ten institutions prior to October 1, 1921. They are the public libraries of Chisholm, Cloquet, Duluth, Fergus Falls, Graceville, Keewatin, Litchfield, Minneapolis, Pine Island (the Van Horne Public Library), and Winona.

In response to an invitation from the regents and faculties of the University of Minnesota the society was represented at the inauguration of Dr. Lotus D. Coffman as president of the university on May 13, 1921, by Mr. Frederick G. Ingersoll, vice president, and Dr. Solon J. Buck, secretary and superintendent.

The first volume of Dr. William W. Folwell's new *History of Minnesota* was the subject of extensive advance articles in the issues of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, the *Minneapolis Tribune*, and the *Minneapolis Journal* of June 5. The articles, which were compiled from proof, were made up largely of selections from the book and were accompanied by reproductions of some of its maps and illustrations.

The first edition of the society's *Handbook*, which was published in May, 1920, having been exhausted, a second edition, revised and brought up to date, has been issued. A copy of this

booklet of forty-six pages, containing a succinct account of the history, organization, and activities of the society, will be sent free of charge to anyone interested upon request.

The importance of the systematic collection and preservation in libraries of complete files of magazines as they are published is well illustrated by a letter published in the *Library Journal* for May 15. In this letter Mr. J. B. Childs of the University of Illinois asks for information about a copy of the *United Banker* for March, 1911. Mr. Child reports that he has sought in vain for a file of this magazine, which was published in Minneapolis, in the public libraries of Minneapolis, St. Paul, Chicago, and New York, the libraries of the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society, and the American Bankers' Association, the John Crerar Library, and the Library of Congress. The Minnesota Historical Society now attempts to preserve complete files of all magazines published in Minnesota and usually receives the hearty coöperation of the publishers.

During the school year from September, 1920, to June, 1921, more than 6,400 students and teachers visited the museum in 165 classes. This is nearly twice the number of those who came in classes during the preceeding year.

A special exhibit consisting of four dresses and several hats of the Civil War period selected from the society's costume collection was loaned to the Mannheimer Brothers store in St. Paul for display in connection with the celebration, in April, of the fiftieth anniversary of its establishment. The window attracted much attention and full credit was given to the society in the accompanying label.

The museum is anxious to enlarge its collection of military uniforms and equipment. Very little of the Spanish War period has been received, and representative specimens of that time are particularly desired.

The last legislature appropriated the sum of two hundred dollars for improving the grounds around the Wood Lake battle monument and directed that the money be expended under the di-

rection of the society. This monument was erected by the state in 1910 to commemorate and mark the site of the last battle of the Sioux War. It is located on an acre of land acquired by the state for the purpose in Yellow Medicine County, about seven miles from Echo. The superintendent of the society visited the site on September 30, conferred with a number of people interested in the matter, and arranged for a local committee consisting of Messrs. H. G. Odden, A. E. Koch, and G. H. Homme to supervise the work. It is expected that this will include the clearing away of some brush and trees, the construction of paths, and the erection of a fence around part of the land.

The superintendent of the society was one of the speakers at the celebration of the semicentennial of Lac qui Parle County held in connection with the county fair at Madison on September 29. His subject was "The Significance of the Lac qui Parle Country in the History of Minnesota," and he pointed out some of the opportunities for local historical work.

Miss Wihelmina Carothers, formerly head cataloguer on the staff of the society, has been appointed librarian to succeed Mr. R. W. G. Vail, who resigned to accept a position with the Roosevelt Memorial Association in New York; and Miss Elizabeth Clark has been appointed to the position of head cataloguer. Other new members of the staff are Mr. Cecil W. Shirk, field secretary; Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts; Mr. Jacob Hodnefield, head of the accessions department; Miss Clara N. Penfield, assistant cataloguer; Miss Marie N. V. Pearson, stenographer; Miss Irene Bulov, catalogue clerk; and Miss Ruth Houle, catalogue typist.

MICHAEL J. DOWLING

Resolutions of the Executive Council of the Society

WHEREAS, Michael J. Dowling, a member of this council, was removed from our midst by death on April 25, 1921; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dowling, although elected to the council only three months before his death, had shown great interest in the society since his election as a member in 1904 and had worked

actively to promote its interest, particularly in the matter of securing adequate appreciation of its work on the part of members of the legislature, — therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, that we hereby express our deep appreciation of the services of Michael J. Dowling to the Minnesota Historical Society and our sense of the great loss which has come to the society and to this council through his death;

RESOLVED, That the superintendent be directed to arrange for the writing of a suitable biographic sketch of Mr. Dowling for publication in the society's magazine, the *Minnesota History Bulletin*; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this body and that copies thereof be furnished to the family of Mr. Dowling.

CHARLES PHELPS NOYES

Resolutions of the Executive Council of the Society

WHEREAS, Charles Phelps Noyes, a member of this council, was removed from our midst by death on April 30, 1921; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Noyes was a most useful and active member of the society from his election in 1893, serving on this council from 1894 to his death and as president from 1915 to 1918 and rendering very great services in connection with the planning and construction of the new building, — therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, that we hereby express our deep appreciation of the services of Charles Phelps Noyes to the Minnesota Historical Society and our sense of the great loss which has come to the society and to this council through his death;

RESOLVED, That the superintendent be directed to arrange for the writing of a suitable biographic sketch of Mr. Noyes for publication in the society's magazine, the *Minnesota History Bulletin*; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this body and that copies thereof be furnished to the family of Mr. Noyes.

ACCESSIONS

Recent transfers of archives from the several state departments to the custody of the society have made a large mass of source material, some of it of great value, available to students of history. From the office of the secretary of state have come legislative bills and papers and the original House and Senate journals for the period from 1881 to 1893 inclusive (the earlier files of these series were transferred in 1920); bonds of county officers and notaries public, 1849 to 1912; election papers, principally abstracts of votes, 1857 to 1918; correspondence files, 1891 to 1920; and the original schedules of the federal and state censuses of 1850, 1860, 1865, 1870, 1875 and 1885. (Part of the schedules of the census of 1880 were received from the census bureau in Washington several years ago.) The adjutant general's office has turned over a quantity of records dating from 1881 to 1918 and including reports, general and special orders, rosters, and correspondence. Other archival material received includes a collection of pay rolls gathered by the minimum wage commission in 1920 and additional records, dating from 1863 to 1887, of the surveyor general of logs and lumber for the first (Stillwater) district.

An extensive and important accession of the summer consists of a large collection of records, manuscripts, books, and periodicals accumulated by the Reverend George C. Tanner of Minneapolis as registrar of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota and turned over to the society by his successor, the Reverend Guy Menefee of Faribault, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the diocesan council several years ago by which the society was designated as the depository of the historical records of the diocese. The manuscript material in the collection covers the period from the forties to the second decade of the present century and includes accounts of the work of early missionaries among the Indians, records and histories of the separate parishes, notes on the lives and labors of prominent clergymen, descriptions of the country and the Indians, statements concerning the relations between missionaries and Indian agents, and papers relating to a

variety of other subjects. Of primary interest are the seven volumes of Bishop Henry B. Whipple's diary covering the period from 1859 to 1870 and also his reminiscences, which were dictated to Mr. Tanner. Other papers which deserve special mention are the minutes of the primary convention of the diocese in 1856, the diaries of the Reverend E. Steele Peake and the Reverend Timothy Wilcoxson, and a wealth of material written by or about the Reverend J. Lloyd Breck. All this is invaluable material not only for its contribution to the history of the Episcopal church but also for the light it throws on the general development of the territory and the state. The printed material in the collection includes an almost complete file of the *Gospel Messenger and Church Record of Western New York* from its beginning in 1827 to 1871, files of the journals of many other dioceses of the Episcopal church, and hundreds of other volumes of church records and periodicals.

Some papers of Governor Horace Austin, consisting, for the most part, of letters to and from political associates written during the decade from 1870 to 1880, have been presented by his son, Mr. Herbert Austin of St. Paul. The chief correspondent in this period was a future governor, Andrew R. McGill, whose papers also are in the possession of the society; thus the new acquisition supplements an older collection. State politics is the general theme of the letters and some very interesting incidents come to light. Evidences of the aftermath of the Civil War appear in letters of two men, well known in Minnesota history, who wrote to Governor Austin to secure influence in getting "carpet-bagging" positions in the South; the anxiety felt by petty office-holders over the solution of the Hayes-Tilden election problem is evident in several letters; and correspondence with the secretary of the treasury shows Austin to have been an advocate of civil service reform some years before Garfield's campaign.

A valuable recent acquisition is the original diary of Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth, the leader of the famous United States Zouave Cadets and one of the first soldiers killed in the Civil War. This diary was given in 1861 to Corporal Francis E.

Brownell, the soldier who shot and bayoneted the assailant of Ellsworth a moment after the latter had fallen. A few years ago Mrs. Edgar B. Barton of St. Paul, a step-daughter of Brownell, presented to the society the Zouave uniform worn by Brownell in 1861. Now Mr. Barton has presented a collection of papers including, in addition to the diary, a number of letters, newspaper clippings, manuscript copies of articles, and pictures. Much of this material relates to the picturesque Zouaves and their gallant leader. An interesting article on Ellsworth appeared in 1918 in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* (1:349-374), written by Charles A. Ingraham as an introduction to a forthcoming biography of the "first hero of the Civil War." Mr. Ingraham, who has conducted a long and unsuccessful search for the diary, states that John Hay probably had access to it at one time and that citations from it have on several occasions appeared in print. Fortunately the original has not been destroyed, as Mr. Ingraham fears. The period covered by the diary is very brief, however, only from April 11 to August 25, 1859. If the diarist continued his daily record after the latter date, the document as preserved among the Brownell papers is incomplete.

A collection of books, papers, and museum objects accumulated by the late Stanford Newel, who served as United States minister to the Netherlands from 1897 to 1905 and was one of the American delegates to the Hague International Peace Conference of 1899, has been presented to the society by his nephew, Mr. David W. Morison of St. Paul. The collection includes the commissions, signed by Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt, by which Mr. Newel was appointed to the diplomatic post in Holland; a series of twenty-eight bronze medals issued by the Dutch government; a number of photographs, including a group picture of the delegates at the Hague in 1899 and an autographed portrait of Queen Wilhelmina; and a wealth of printed material relating to the peace conference.

Much Minneapolis history from 1857 to 1920 is preserved in the correspondence and papers of the late George A. Brackett which have been presented to the society by his son, Mr. Chapin

R. Brackett. Although the collection is a large one, it comprises only a part of the papers which Mr. Brackett left. It consists of personal letters and papers, five letter books, a long series of account books, and six scrapbooks dealing with such subjects as Alaska, the growth of Minneapolis, the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and the Northern Pacific Railroad. Mr. Brackett was connected with numerous local projects of a municipal and philanthropic nature, and his papers contain a wealth of material on such subjects. There is also considerable correspondence relating to the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad and some material of great value dealing with Mr. Brackett's road into the Alaska gold fields. The correspondence includes letters from a large number of pioneers and from prominent Minnesotans such as James J. Hill, William D. Washburn, John S. Pillsbury, Cushman K. Davis, Knute Nelson, and William Windom.

A small collection of papers of Richard Chute, one of the pioneer settlers of St. Anthony, has been presented by his son, Mr. Charles R. Chute of Pasadena, California, through the courtesy of Dr. Folwell. From the patents, indentures, and deeds among these papers one can reconstruct portions of the early history of several Minnesota townships and can observe the process by which many western towns came into being. It appears that Princeton, for example, was owned in 1856 by a group of five men, who employed a resident agent to negotiate with prospective settlers for the sale of lots. The collection includes a map of this town issued by the original proprietors in 1856, with annotations and explanations written in by hand, and the report of the agent for that year, noting the sales of individual lots and the purchasers' names. Other papers of special interest in this collection include records of the Andrews Presbyterian Church of St. Anthony and a letter from Robert Watson of Montreal, dated February 10, 1880, which deals with the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad.

The papers of the Honorable Moses D. Sherburne, for whom Sherburne county was named, are the recent gift of the Honorable John W. Willis of St. Paul. Legal matters mostly of the

fifties and sixties, with letters from his clients, form the larger part of the collection.

Through the thoughtfulness of Mr. Jens K. Grondahl, president of the Red Wing Printing Company, an accession of importance has come to the society's collection of Civil War manuscripts. This is "The Story of Company F, First Regiment. By James A. Wright, One of its Orderly Sergeants," consisting of 875 type-written sheets. The author recounts the experiences not only of his company but also to some extent of the entire regiment from its inception at the call to arms till it was mustered out of service in 1864. The account is based in large part on the author's diary, kept through the entire period, and on letters written to his mother. Where he had no record, he drew on his memory and on printed authorities.

A few Civil War letters of Thomas McLean Newson, Civil War major and lecturer and one of the founders of the *St. Paul Times*, the predecessor of the present *Pioneer Press*, together with a sketch of his life, have been deposited by his daughter, Miss Mary J. Newson of St. Paul. Among the letters is an anonymous note signed with a skull and crossbones which was received by Mr. Newson in Washington in 1861. This curious epistle warned him of impending death, saying that nothing could save him. The other letters relate mainly to Mr. Newson's duties as an officer in the army.

From the Harvard College Library, through the kindness of Mr. Thomas F. Currier, assistant librarian, and Professor Frederick J. Turner, the society has received a manuscript copy of "Reminiscences by Mrs. Julia K. S. Hibbard, embracing memories of pioneer days in Minnesota, 1856-1868, and of a journey by prairie wagon to Missouri in 1868, with a brief reference to the Minnesota Sioux War of 1863." Mrs. Hibbard was brought to Steele County by her parents when she was twelve years old, and her story presents a vivid and interesting picture of domestic life on the frontier. The account of the trip to Missouri is taken from a contemporary diary.

From the Sibley House Association, through the courtesy of Mrs. Frank H. Jerrard, the society has received five letters addressed to General William G. Le Duc and the reminiscences of Auguste L. Larpenteur. The letters to General Le Duc are a welcome addition to the Le Duc Papers already in the possession of the society. Of special interest are two letters from General Sibley and one from Governor Ramsey relating to the visit of President Hayes to St. Paul in 1878. The Larpenteur reminiscences give the colorful history of one of the well-known pioneers of Minnesota. An interesting item tells of his making the first St. Paul post-office boxes, which are now on exhibition in the museum of the society.

In 1866, when rivals in the race for congressman from the first district, Richard Asbury Jones and William Windom traveled from city to city in Minnesota making speeches from the same platform. The little memorandum book in which Jones jotted down the substance of these speeches has been preserved and presented to the society by Mr. Richard Saxe Jones of Seattle, Washington.

Mr. James M. Drew of the agricultural extension division of the University of Minnesota has presented a series of diaries and account books kept by his father, Edward B. Drew, from 1849 to 1893. The entries in these little volumes are primarily of agricultural interest, as the writer spent nearly forty years on a farm at Rollingstone, near Winona, where he settled in the early fifties and where he raised the first "wheat ever brought to and sold in Winona." He was a representative in the legislature during the seventies.

An interesting letter written by Steffan Steffanson from Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1849, to relatives and friends in Sweden comes as a welcome addition to data already gathered on Scandinavian immigration to the Northwest. This letter, which describes the writer's experiences after leaving Sweden, is the gift of Professor George M. Stephenson of the University of Minnesota. A translation may be found in the *Minneapolis Journal* of October 10, 1920.

Mrs. William A. Dorsey, secretary of the Schubert Club of St. Paul, has deposited with the society the records of that organization and its predecessor, the Ladies' Musicales, from 1885 to 1917 — seventeen volumes in all. Minute books, secretary's and treasurer's books, scrapbooks of programs, and miscellaneous records are included.

Mr. Charles B. Kuhlmann, instructor in economics in the University of Minnesota, has presented a manuscript copy of his master's thesis on "The Development of Flour Milling in Minneapolis."

The editorial and other newspaper articles of Frank J. Mead of the *St. Paul Pioneer*, the *Minneapolis Times*, and other Twin City papers, preserved in a series of scrapbooks, have been deposited with the society by his daughter, Mrs. Ottilie Messick of Western Springs, Illinois. They date from 1872 to 1892 and form an interesting chain of comments on and interpretations of leading events in the United States and particularly in Minnesota during those years.

Mr. Edson S. Gaylord of Minneapolis has recently secured and placed on deposit with the society a collection of ten commissions of Colonel Josiah Snelling. These commissions range in date from 1803 to 1819, and they represent the various ranks by which Snelling rose from sergeant in the Massachusetts militia to colonel in the United States Army. They are written some on paper and some on parchment and bear the signatures of a number of famous men, including Presidents Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe.

Judge William L. Kelley of St. Paul has presented a number of documents of Civil War interest, including an interesting autograph note from General William T. Sherman.

An autograph letter of Walt Whitman written in 1873 to a soldier boy of the Civil War has recently been received from Mrs. W. E. Conner of Minneapolis through the courtesy of Dean Frederick J. Wulling of the University of Minnesota. The soldier boy was Byron Sutherland, later a Minneapolis attorney, whom

Whitman met in a hospital which he visited in an effort to cheer the soldiers.

Through the kindness of Mr. Edwin C. Garrigues of Minneapolis the society has been enabled to add a third map of the early surveys of Fort Snelling to its collections. Several years ago photostatic copies were acquired of maps in the government archives at Washington made from the surveys of E. K. Smith in 1837 and of J. T. Thompson in 1839. The map now presented by Mr. Garrigues is a blue print of a tracing of a survey of 1857, which was furnished to him in 1912 by the war department. It contains some data not found on the other maps, notably the location of the residence of Franklin Steele.

A little leather trunk which was brought from England by sailing vessel in 1830 by her parents is the gift of Mrs. Edward P. Savage of St. Paul. She has also deposited a small portable mahogany writing desk, brought over at the same time, and a large doll, carefully dressed in the style of 1876. Another gift is a box of her husband's papers, relating in the main to the Children's Home Society of Minnesota, of which Mr. Savage was the founder.

The society's collection of specimens illustrating early American domestic life has been enriched during the past six months by gifts from Mrs. Mary H. Gaylord of Winona; Mrs. William F. Webster, Mrs. Winston B. Newell, Mrs. Alice S. Holmes, and Mrs. Eugene A. Hendrickson of Minneapolis; Mrs. George H. Hurd of St. Paul; and the estate of the late Miss Anna Jarden of Minneapolis. The articles contributed consist principally of old-fashioned dresses and other wearing apparel. Exceptions, however, are a Singer sewing machine, purchased in 1860, which was presented by Mrs. Hurd, and a handsome old eight-day clock with wooden works, made in Connecticut about 1820, which is a gift from Mrs. Holmes.

An interesting reminder of the duties of a schoolmaster in the early days is the quill pen-cutter which has been deposited with the society by Mr. Charles R. Riach of St. Paul.

Mr. R. E. Phillips of White Bear has presented an ironstone china plate of the "Ceres" or "Wheat" pattern, which is said to have been manufactured especially for the American market at Tunstall, England, about the middle of the nineteenth century.

Mr. Charles W. Farnham of St. Paul has presented a fine collection of twenty-six flags of the allied nations engaged in the World War, together with an autographed photograph of General John J. Pershing.

In the name of the Forty-first United States Infantry, Colonel Arthur Johnson, its commander, has presented to the society two large buffalo heads, in recognition of the fact that the regiment was organized at Fort Snelling in June, 1917. The regiment has recently been placed by the war department on the inactive list, and its members desire that a part of its personal property should be preserved in Minnesota, the state of its birth.

A small ox yoke used on young steers in 1851 is the gift of Mr. Charles J. Ray of Le Sueur Center. Since neither this yoke nor another belonging to the society are complete with bows and pins, gifts of these parts will be especially welcome.

Socks, sweaters, games, comfort kits, buttons, and many other articles illustrative of the varied activities of the American Red Cross during the World War are included in a large collection of specimens received from the St. Paul chapter of the American Red Cross. Pictures showing Red Cross units at work and the various uniforms used by the overseas workers add to the interest of the collection.

A special meeting of the Ladies Shakespeare Club of Minneapolis was held in the west hall of the museum on Tuesday morning, June 21, for the purpose of presenting to the society an enlarged photograph, appropriately framed, of the late Professor Emeritus Maria Sanford of the University of Minnesota. Mrs. Annie W. Buell, the retiring president, made the presentation on behalf of the club, and the curator of the museum accepted the portrait for the society. Professor Emeritus J. C. Hutchinson,

who was for many years a colleague of Miss Sanford, paid a fine tribute to her personality and energy.

In accordance with the terms of the will of the late Charles P. Bailly of St. Paul, a large framed oil portrait of Alexis Bailly, a pioneer Minnesota fur-trader, has been turned over to the society by Miss Kathrene S. Sleppy and the Reverend Charles E. Tuke of St. Paul, the executors of the estate.

A copy of the *Vicksburg Daily Citizen* of July 2, 1863, printed on wall paper because of the shortage of print paper during the siege of Vicksburg by the Union forces, has been received from Mr. I. J. Collins, a Civil War veteran, through the courtesy of Mr. Arthur D. White of Frazee. Many facsimile reproductions of this paper are in existence — several in the possession of the society — but a comparison of the copy received from Mr. Collins with descriptions of authenticated originals in other libraries indicates that it is a genuine copy of the original issue.

Mr. Frederick G. Ingersoll of St. Paul has presented a file of the *New York Evening Post*, daily, from January 4 to December 31, 1813. It is of special interest as a contemporary source of information about the War of 1812.

A gift of nearly a thousand books, pamphlets, magazines, and maps has been received from Mr. Horace V. Winchell, who recently removed from Minneapolis to Los Angeles. Of special interest are the thirty-one maps, mostly of areas in the Northwest, some of which are old and rare. Gifts of large lots of books, pamphlets, and magazines have also been received from Mr. Dietrich Lange of St. Paul and from the estate of the late Judge Frank C. Brooks of Minneapolis, through the courtesy of his daughter, Miss O. M. Brooks.

NEWS AND COMMENT

The June-September number of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* contains, besides the article on Ignatius Donnelly reviewed elsewhere in this number, an account of the fourteenth annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Madison in April; a critique of "Rhodes's *History of the United States*," by Lester B. Shippee; and "Trudeau's Description of the Upper Missouri," edited by Annie H. Abel. This document, which was written shortly after 1795, was included in the collection of papers of Joseph N. Nicollet recently discovered in the government archives in Washington and turned over to the Library of Congress. The introduction contains an account of the discovery of the collection and a brief statement of its contents, which appear to include valuable Minnesota material.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association was held at Madison, Wisconsin, on April 15, 16, and 17. "State and Local History," by Clarence H. McClure, "Popularizing State History," by Floyd C. Shoemaker, "The Daughters of the American Revolution and Their Work in the Mississippi Valley," by Miss Jenn W. Coltrane, "Archeology of the North Mississippi Valley States in Relation to Their History," by George R. Fox, "The Historical Museum — Its Making and Its Teaching Value," by Edward C. Page, and "The Political Influence of Civil War Pensions, 1885-1897," by Donald L. McMurray were some of the papers on the program.

"What do you remember of T. R.?" is the question which the Roosevelt Memorial Association is circulating throughout the country. Anyone who knew Colonel Roosevelt personally is asked to write the story of his acquaintance and send it with "any unusual books, pamphlets, cartoons, magazine articles, clippings or photographs, dealing with Roosevelt's life or interests," which he may possess, to the offices of the association at One Madison Avenue, New York.

The supervisor of public records of Massachusetts, in his *Annual Report* for the year ending November 30, 1920, announces that "the care, custody, condition and protection against fire of the public records" of 352 places were inspected during the year. Some of the results of such inspections may be inferred from the statements that records of five towns and six counties were repaired, renovated, restored, or bound by the Emery record preserving process; and that, while there were five fires in record depositories during the year, no records were destroyed except one readily replaceable volume, which had been left outside the safe. Some day the western states will wake up to the importance of giving more attention to the preservation of their local records.

Indiana bids fair to be the banner state of the West in the cultivation of the field of local history. The last legislature passed an act authorizing the county commissioners of any county having an historical society to appropriate fifteen hundred dollars a year for collecting, cataloguing, and printing historical material. Of this sum not to exceed nine hundred dollars may be used to pay the salary of a curator, whose duties shall be prescribed by the historical society. In the East organized historical activities, whether state or local in scope, have been privately conducted as a rule. In the West, however, the publicly supported state historical society has been the prevailing type; and, if this movement in Indiana is successful, it seems probable that, when effective local societies develop, they too will be public institutions, supported, in part at least, by the county or city which they serve. Indiana already had a considerable number of local historical societies, and several new ones have been organized since this law was enacted, including one at Fort Wayne with over two hundred charter members.

Another indication of the flowering of historical interest in Indiana is a state-wide historical and archeological survey, which is undertaken by the Indiana Historical Commission and the division of geology of the state conservation department in coöperation with the National Research Council. The purpose of the

survey is not only to secure descriptions of Indian mounds and archeological specimens but also to collect information about "such items as old books, diaries, antiques, letters, ledger books, old furniture, agricultural tools, transportation devices, war relics and heirlooms of historic value. In addition an effort will be made to locate historic sites, buildings, battlefields, and old churches and cemeteries, with the view of marking these spots throughout the state." It is to be hoped that such important sources of historical information as the county archives, private manuscript collections, and newspaper files will not be overlooked.

An historical marker of an unusual sort is the Dubois County Settlement Stone, erected near the site of the first white settlement in Dubois County, Indiana, by Mr. George R. Wilson of Jasper, Indiana, to commemorate the lives and deeds of the pioneers of the locality. Mr. Wilson also has published a booklet (47 p.) in which the stone is represented as telling the story of the early settlement of the county.

"A Guide to the Study of Local History and the Collection of Historical Material" is the title of an article by Jonas Viles and Jesse E. Wrench in the April number of the *Missouri Historical Review*. The same issue contains a brief article entitled "How You Can Organize a Local Historical Society," by C. H. McClure. Both of these articles contain suggestions of value to those interested in local history in any of the western states.

The activities of the Kansas State Historical Society for the two years ending June 30, 1920, are recounted in the *Twenty-second Biennial Report* of that organization (Topeka, 1921. 79 p.). The report of the committee on archeology presented at the 1919 meeting of the society contains an account of a "red pipe-stone or 'Catlinite' Roman cross" found near the site of a prehistoric Indian village in Marshall County, Kansas.

The Minnesota Territorial Pioneers and the Territorial Pioneer Women's Club held a joint meeting in the Old Capitol, St. Paul, on May 11 to celebrate the sixty-third anniversary of the

admission of Minnesota to the Union. During the first week in September members of the former organization gathered again at their log cabin on the state fair grounds to talk over their pioneer experiences. A photograph of a large group of pioneers posed in front of the log cabin is published in the rotogravure section of the *Minneapolis Tribune* for October 9, and pictures of some of the relics displayed in the cabin appear with a brief descriptive article in the *St. Paul Daily News* for August 28.

The *Western Magazine* should be commended for the regularity with which it publishes articles of local history interest. In the April issue, under the heading "Inspiration of a Picture," is printed a letter written in the eighties by Alex Hessler of Chicago to the late Captain Russell Blakeley of St. Paul, in which the writer tells of making daguerrotypes around St. Paul, St. Anthony, and Fort Snelling in 1851 and 1852, one of which — a picture of Minnehaha Falls — he claims furnished Longfellow with the inspiration for his "Hiawatha." The last page of the letter, the original of which is the property of the Minnesota Historical Society, is reproduced in facsimile. The story of the "Fight for Itasca State Park" is sketched by C. L. Llewellyn in the May issue, and in the June number an account of some of the early explorations around the headwaters of the Mississippi River appears in an article entitled "Searching for the Source." A sketch of the "Hereditary Feud of Sioux and Chippewa," with accounts of the principal battles, by Willoughby M. Babcock Jr., and a description of the "Last Days of the Last Vigilante," — John X. Biedler, — by Edmond B. DeLestry, appear respectively in the July and August issues.

Several articles by Albert B. Reagan, who was superintendent of the Bois Fort Indian Reservation at Nett Lake from 1909 to 1914, published in the *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* for 1919 (Fort Wayne, 1921), are valuable for the student of Indian social life. Of special interest to Minnesotans are the accounts of Chippewa customs and the descriptions of the country around Nett Lake, all of which are based upon personal

observations. One article has for its subject the methods followed by the Bois Fort Indians in harvesting and preparing for market and for use wild rice, which grows in great profusion in the shallow waters of Nett Lake (p. 241). A description of the country through which the author passed while taking a journey by canoe and rail in the valleys of the Nett Lake, Little Fork, and Big Fork rivers is contained in another article (pp. 249-251); and descriptions of various Chippewa games, of the ceremony of initiating an Indian into the "medicine lodge," and of an island in Nett Lake on the polished rocks of which appear primitive pictographs are combined in an article entitled "A Trip Among the Rainy Lakes" (pp. 253-259). "The Flood Myth of the Chippewas," which is recorded in detail by Mr. Reagan (pp. 347-352), is an interesting narrative woven about a primitive conception of a diety. The April-June number of the *American Anthropologist* contains a brief note by Mr. Reagan on "Some Chippewa Medicinal Receipts," copied from the notebook of a medicine man. The text is given in Chippewa, with a literal and a free English translation.

The issue for June 15 of *El Palacio*, a magazine published by the Museum of New Mexico, contains an interesting popular account of "Indian Music" by Frances Densmore of Red Wing. The author has studied the music of seven tribes, including the Chippewa and the Sioux, and the results of her investigations are being published by the Bureau of American Ethnology.

A series of articles "about the Indians of Minnesota, and particularly those living on or near the site of Minneapolis," by Albert M. Goodrich, has been running in the *Harriet News*, a weekly paper of the Lake Harriet district in Minneapolis. Installments appear in each issue from July 29 to October 1, with the exception of September 16. The first four articles are concerned chiefly with the work of the Pond brothers and other missionaries; the introduction of white men's tools among the Dakota and the origin of Indian corn are touched upon in the fifth and sixth; and the subject of the remaining three articles is the Dakota worship and mythology.

The *Thirty-Second Annual Archaeological Report*, for 1920, issued as part of the appendix to the *Report* of the minister of education of Ontario, contains an illustrated article on "Snowshoes," presumably by the editor, Dr. Rowland B. Orr, and the fifth installment of "Ojibwa Myths and Tales," by Colonel George E. Laidlaw.

"The 'Goths' in the Kensington Inscription" is the title of a paper about the famous rune stone by Hjalmar R. Holand in the May issue of *Scandinavian Studies and Notes*. The paper was read at the eleventh annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study at Northfield, on May 6.

"The Kensington Runestone," by Lawrence M. Larson, in the June issue of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, is a criticism of articles on that subject in previous issues of the magazine by Hjalmar R. Holand and Rasmus B. Anderson (see *ante*, 3: 320, 376, 471). This issue contains also an account of Father René Ménard, "The First Missionary in Wisconsin," by Louise P. Kellogg. "Jean Brunet, Chippewa Valley Pioneer," by William W. Bartlett, in the September number of same magazine, touches upon aspects of Minnesota history in the twenties and thirties.

The *Palimpsest* for June contains a sketch of "Michel Aco — Squaw Man," by John C. Parish. Aco (Accault) was the leader of the expedition dispatched by La Salle in 1680 to explore the upper Mississippi — the expedition to which the name of one of the other members, Father Hennepin, is usually attached. The August number contains Charles J. Latrobe's account of his trip up the Mississippi from Fort Crawford to Fort Snelling and back in 1833, reprinted from his *Rambler in North America*.

A second article on "The Origin of the Name Oregon," by T. C. Elliot (see *ante*, 89), in the *Quarterly* of the Oregon Historical Society for June, containing further discussion of the career of Jonathan Carver and of his connections with Major Robert Rogers, will interest those who are concerned with the history of the West during the British period. Among the documents

accompanying the article are two petitions addressed by Carver to the king in 1769 and 1773, in which he asks compensation for his services in exploring the country west of the Great Lakes.

"Reminiscences of Jane Grey Swisshelm," the famous anti-slavery agitator who edited a paper at St. Cloud in the late fifties, by the Reverend S. J. Fisher, are published in the *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine* for July.

Conspicuous accomplishments of Minnesota troops in the Civil War are reviewed in an article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 29. An account of the military career of Captain William B. Leach of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, who is cited as "typical of the young men Minnesota sent out," is included. Portraits of some of the leaders of the Union army, of Captain Leach, and of General Horatio P. Van Cleve of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry are among the illustrations.

On May 18 Governor Preus dedicated a monument in the National Cemetery at Nashville, Tennessee, to the memory of those Minnesotans who gave their lives in the Civil War and who are buried there. General C. C. Andrews of St. Paul and Judge Lorin Cray of Mankato also represented the state at the ceremony.

The Last Man's Club, composed of men who served with Company B of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, held its thirty-sixth annual banquet at the Sawyer House in Stillwater on June 21. Four of the five surviving members attended the meeting.

The discovery by Mr. Arthur T. Adams of Minneapolis of the neglected graves of five victims of the Sioux Outbreak, members of the Dustin family, is described in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 12. Mr. Adams located the graves while engaged in a second pilgrimage to the scenes of the massacre of 1862 (see *ante*, 3: 535).

The Fort Ridgely State Park and Historical Association celebrated the fifty-ninth anniversary of the repulse of the Sioux at

Fort Ridgely on August 22 at the site of the siege. The principal speaker, the Honorable Theodore Christianson, touched upon the chief events leading up to and connected with the attack on the fort. A preliminary announcement of the celebration in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 14 includes a resumé of the outstanding events of the Sioux Massacre. Reports of Mr. Christianson's speech are published in the issues for August 22 of the *Journal* and the *St. Paul Dispatch*.

Wandering away with Lieutenant Ambrose Freeman from the main command of the Sibley expedition, of which both were members, the late George A. Brackett of Minneapolis was lost on the prairie for seven days after his companion had been killed by Indians in July, 1863. The "pioneer's own account" of this adventure and of the hardships he suffered before he succeeded in finding his way to Fort Atchison is published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 29, with portraits of some of the individuals who figure in his tale and illustrative sketches.

An account of the "Minneapolis-Fort Garry Fued" of 1873 is published in three installments in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for August 14, 21, and 28. The account, based upon material in one of the scrapbooks of the late George A. Brackett of Minneapolis, which gives the "entire story, in multitudinous newspaper clippings, telegrams, letters, receipted bills, and old photographs," includes a biography of "Lord Gordon Gordon," the bogus Scottish nobleman and swindler, and a lengthy narrative of the attempt of Chief Michael Hoy of the Minneapolis police force and several other Minneapolitans to seize Gordon at Fort Garry and bring him into the United States. This attempt resulted in their arrest and imprisonment by the Canadian authorities, and the difficulties encountered by Mayor Brackett during the two months which he spent in obtaining their release are recounted. The illustrations include portraits of the principal individuals involved in the fued and a picture of Fort Garry in 1873.

Minneapolis was the scene from September 12 to 15 of the twenty-third national encampment of the United Spanish War

Veterans. A brief article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for July 3 about the coming encampment is notable chiefly for the illustrations which accompany it. These consist of portraits of a number of Minnesotans who participated in the war against Spain, including Colonel A. W. Bjornstad, "commanding officer at Fort Snelling, who was a captain in the Thirteenth Minnesota" in 1898, and pictures of the Fifteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry passing in review at Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, and of Singalong Church near Manila, where a number of members of the Thirteenth Minnesota were wounded in action.

"The Dakota-Minnesota Interstate Drainage Suit," by E. F. Chandler, is the leading article in the April issue of the *Quarterly Journal* of the University of North Dakota. In addition to discussions of the legal and technical problems involved, it contains some account of the historical background of this important suit.

"The Constitution of Minnesota," by William Anderson, in the May number of the *Minnesota Law Review* is a "condensation of certain portions" of his *History of the Constitution of Minnesota* (reviewed *ante*, 41-44). The article sketches the history of the framing and adoption of the constitution, summarizes the amendments, and concludes with a discussion of "The Constitution Today."

In a column of the editorial page of the *Minneapolis Journal* which is intermittently devoted to articles about "Minnesota Politics," by Charles B. Cheyney, parallel cases in the political history of the state are sometimes cited to illustrate comments on present situations. For such a purpose in the issue of the *Journal* for August 16 the nomination and election of Congressman Charles R. Davis in 1902 through the influence of his predecessor, Joel P. Heatwole, is recalled; and in the issue for August 18 the battle for the senatorship between Governor Knute Nelson and Senator William D. Washburn in 1895 is described.

Reminiscences of the boyhood and youth of Senator Knute Nelson at Deerfield, Wisconsin, are published in the *Duluth Herald* for August 6.

The Bandwagon, a novel by former Congressman Franklin F. Ellsworth (Philadelphia, Dorrance, 1921), will have an interest for students of history as the author's interpretation of recent political developments and tendencies in Minnesota.

The differences between the styles and social customs of 1856 and the present and the difficulties involved in being a lady "when grandma was a girl" are set forth in a series of quotations from the *Lady's Guide to Perfect Gentility*, by Emily Thornwall, which are woven into a feature story in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 26. The illustrations consist of a number of fashion plates depicting the costumes of the middle of the nineteenth century. The evolution of male attire during the past century is outlined in another article in the *Tribune* for September 18. The costumes of past decades are illustrated in portraits of some prominent Minnesotans and in a series of fashion plates.

Some of the early and rare copies of songs in the collection of Mr. Arthur B. Hunt of St. Paul were exhibited by the St. Paul and Minneapolis public libraries during August. First editions of "The Star Spangled Banner," "Hail Columbia," and the first hymn book published in America were included in the display. The collection is described in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for August 7 and the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 14, and the former paper publishes a portrait of Francis Scott Key and reproductions of two of the songs.

"A History of the Medical School" of the University of Minnesota, prepared by Dr. Richard O. Beard for the Medical Six o'Clock Club and read before that organization on February 16, is published in three installments in the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* for May 5 and 19 and June 2. This is an excellent account of the progress of medical education in Minnesota — of the combination of the small medical colleges of the state to bring about the unification of medical teaching in the university, an objective which was not reached until 1908; of the successive steps by which the curriculum was improved and enlarged; of the contributions to the school's success of numerous faculty members. In writing

his account of the later period of the medical school, the principal event of which is the affiliation with the Mayo Foundation, Dr. Beard received the assistance of Dr. H. E. Robertson. The author's charming style and sparkling humor make the article interesting reading.

In the *Polaris Weekly*, a publication of North High School of Minneapolis, for May 5 Dr. Folwell recalls the pioneer work in the field of public health of Dr. Charles N. Hewitt, who served as secretary of the state board of health from 1872 to 1897 and as professor of public health in the University of Minnesota from 1874 to 1902.

The adventurous career of a pioneer Minnesota physician, who, although he spent the major part of his life in this state, won distinction on another frontier and in a field of endeavor quite outside of his profession, is sketched by Dr. Howard A. Kelly of Baltimore in a pamphlet entitled *Layfayette Houghton Bunnell, M. D., Discoverer of the Yosemite* (New York, 1921. 15 p.), which is a reprint from the *Annals of Medical History* (3: 179-193). The story of Bunnell's boyhood in Detroit, where he came under the influence of his mother's cousin, Dr. Douglas Houghton, a member of the Schoolcraft expedition of 1832, and of his youth on the more remote frontier of Wisconsin and Minnesota, is passed over somewhat hastily in order that the romantic tale of his adventures in California may be more fully told. The account of his activities as a member of the Mariposa Battalion, which in March, 1850, tracked the hostile Yosemite Indians to their stronghold in the deep valley named for them upon Bunnell's suggestion, is made up largely of quotations from his book, the *Discovery of the Yosemite* (New York, 1880). Conflicting claims to the discovery of the valley also are considered. In conclusion, an account of Bunnell's medical career and of his life at Homer, near Winona, where he resided from 1865 until his death in 1903, is presented. The "fact of his medical education" is established by a reproduction, from the original in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society, of his diploma from

the La Crosse Medical College of La Crosse, Wisconsin. The illustrations include also portraits of Dr. Bunnell and his wife.

A series of four articles, by Charles F. Collisson, on Minnesota as a butter-producing state is published in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune* for the month of September. The third and fourth articles deal with the histories of the movements for coöperative and centralizer creameries in the state.

The rush of gold-seekers to the Lake Vermilion region in 1866 and their abortive activities there are discussed in "Romance of Gold Island," by Martin Codel, in the *Northern Sportsman* for June. According to an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 8, this search for gold was an important factor in the discovery and early development of the state's great resources in that more prosaic metal — iron. Problems to which the growth of the mining industry has given rise provide material for two additional articles in recent issues of Twin City papers. The first, in the *Pioneer Press* for August 14, deals with the labors of the Reverend William J. Bell, the "missionary of the Mesaba," and his corps of workers in bringing religious instruction to the many foreigners of the district. The second, in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for September 4, gives the story of the removal of Hibbing from its location over a valuable ore deposit to an oreless area.

Two articles by Louis B. Schmidt on the "Internal Grain Trade of the United States 1860-1890" are published in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for April and July (pp. 196-245 and 414-455). In the first article the author discusses the founding of a "great cereal and live-stock kingdom . . . in the North Central region"; in the second he deals with the development of the means of distributing the "huge surplus of grain and provisions" of this district. The latter phase of the subject is of particular interest to Minnesotans, since Mr. Schmidt treats in detail the growth of the ten great "primary grain markets of the Middle West," among which he stresses Minneapolis as the "foremost primary wheat market in the world" (p. 441). The movement to the East and South of grain and flour from the

western markets is to be the subject of a third article which will appear in a subsequent number of the *Journal*.

Under the title "The Life and Adventures of Capt. Stephen B. Hanks," an autobiography of unusual value and interest has been appearing in weekly installments in the *Saturday Evening Post* of Burlington, Iowa, beginning March 26 (see *ante*, p. 88). The portion of the narrative published previous to October 1 falls naturally into three divisions, each of which pictures a distinct phase of frontier life. The first traces the westward movement of a pioneering family group. The scene shifts from the vast Kentucky farm — a self-sustaining industrial unit dependent upon slave labor for the cultivation of its crops — where Captain Hanks was born in 1821 to the corn-raising country of southern Illinois and thence by several stages north and west to the permanent home established on the town site which became Albany, Illinois. Of greater interest to Minnesotans is the second division of the narrative, which takes the reader north to the St. Croix River Valley. Captain Hanks presents an intensely interesting account of his connection from 1841 to 1854 with the origin and growth of the lumber industry in this region. Various phases of the industry are described, for as an employee of the St. Croix Falls Lumber Company the author worked in the logging camp at Lake Pokegama, in the mill at St. Croix Falls, at driving logs down the St. Croix from the camp to the mill, and on rafts of logs and lumber which were sent from the mill down the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis. Especially noteworthy are the descriptions of his experiences as a raft pilot for John McKusick, the pioneer Stillwater lumberman. Captain Hanks severed his connection with the lumber interests in 1854 and became a steamboat pilot, and with this change the third division of his narrative begins. In the installment for September 24 he tells of trips between Galena and St. Paul on the steamboat "Galena," of which he became pilot in 1855, and of the typical cargo and passengers carried between these points. The value of the autobiography is enhanced by explanatory notes prepared by Captain Fred A. Bill of St. Paul, who edited the manuscript.

"St. Paul Engineer Labors Forty-two Years Improving Upper River Channel" is the title of a technical account, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 19, of the methods used in improving conditions for river transportation between St. Louis and Minneapolis, and particularly of the participation of Mr. James D. Du Shane in this work. A portrait of Mr. Du Shane appears with the article.

The announcement that a bronze tablet to the memory of Joseph Reynolds was to be unveiled in the Reynolds Club founded by his widow at the University of Chicago, brought forth articles about the frontier promoter in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 8 and the *Minneapolis Journal* for May 29. Reynolds is commonly remembered as an important figure in upper Mississippi River transportation, the owner of the Diamond Jo Line of steamboats; but in these articles other equally important phases of his career are pictured, and he is revealed as a wheat-speculator, a railroad-builder, and a mine-owner.

Major Joseph R. Brown's "steam wagon" which was used for hauling freight at Henderson in 1860 is described, and how the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 put an end to the development of this form of transportation until the automobile truck came into general use is explained in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for April 17. By way of introduction, Brown's varied activities as a pioneer Minnesotan are enumerated. With the article is reproduced a picture of the monument erected at Henderson in honor of Major Brown. The same account, somewhat curtailed, appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for April 10.

The Hill Roads is the title of "a short history and description of the railroads comprising the Hill system" published by Harris, Forbes and Company, a New York banking concern (New York, 1921. 20 p.). The pamphlet contains brief but useful sketches of the histories of the four railroads controlled by the Hill interests, the Northern Pacific, the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy, the Colorado and Southern, and Mr. Hill's "personal creation,"

the Great Northern. These are followed by more general discussions of the mileage of the roads, the extent of territory which they serve, the types of goods which they transport, and their past and present financial standing. An excellent map of the "Hill Railroad System," which serves seventeen states, is included (p. 10), and numerous illustrations and charts add materially to the value of the pamphlet.

A brief article about Charles Cotter of Two Harbors, an "engineer of old wood burning days," who is said to have operated the first locomotive out of Fargo, North Dakota, on the Northern Pacific Railway, appears, with his portrait, in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for August 7.

In its *Official Year Book* for 1920 the Minnesota State Federation of Labor continues the practice of publishing contributions to the "History of the Labor Movement in Minnesota."

The feature article in the September number of the *American-Scandinavian Review* is a chronicle of the "Scandinavian Element in Congress" by Nels Hokanson. It is followed by a "Gallery of Scandinavian Congressmen," composed of twenty portraits, each of which is accompanied by a brief biographical sketch. A fourth of the men thus pictured are Minnesotans. The cover bears a portrait of Senator Knute Nelson, who, according to Mr. Hokanson, "was the first Scandinavian governor of an American state, the first representative, and the first senator."

Conditions among the Scandinavians in Minneapolis during the eighties are described in the novel *Nykommer-billeder; Jonas Olsens første Aar i Amerika* (Pictures of Newcomer Life; Jonas Olsen's First Years in America), written by Johannes B. Wist under the pseudonym "Arnljot" (Decorah, Iowa, 1920. 152 p.). The author reveals a thorough familiarity with the Minneapolis of a generation ago and particularly with its Norwegian-born population. Against that background is sketched the story of the varied experiences of an immigrant in the transitional first years of his life in this country.

The executive committee of the Minnesota conference of the Swedish Lutheran Church has appointed the Reverend Emil Lund of Minneapolis conference historian.

The following old settlers' associations held annual meetings during the past six months: the Hennepin County Territorial Pioneers' Association at the Godfrey House, Richard Chute Square, Minneapolis, June 1; the Stearns County Old Settlers' Association at St. Cloud, June 7; the Renville County Old Settlers' Association at Sacred Heart, June 9; the Dodge County Old Settlers' Association at Kasson, June 14; and the St. Croix Valley Old Settlers' Association at Stillwater, September 21.

The number of towns sufficiently interested in the histories of their localities to reproduce their stories in pageant form is constantly increasing, and during the past summer no less than six Minnesota communities staged such productions. The history of Renville County was set forth in a pageant presented at Sacred Heart on June 16; the contrasting, though equally picturesque, figures of Alexander Faribault and Bishop Whipple were prominent in the Rice County pageant at Faribault on June 20 and 21; the tragic tale of the Indian maiden, Winona, was enacted in the opening episode of the performance presented in the city of her name on June 27, 28, and 29; the story of Otter Tail County was reviewed at Fergus Falls on July 4 and 6; the signing of the treaty of Traverse des Sioux was pictured in the most interesting episode of the pageant presented at St. Peter on August 18 and 19; and Hutchinson was the scene of the McLeod County pageant on August 25 and 26. Another pageant of decided interest to Minnesotans was that presented at Fargo on June 10 and 11, which depicted the history of the Red River Valley.

During the past six months the *St. Paul Daily News* has published in its Sunday issues a "series of little travelogs on St. Paul's neighbors," by Frances C. Boardman. Some of the articles include stories of a town's rich historic past; others simply deal with some outstanding features of a community's present aspect. All are appropriately illustrated with views of the towns

and portraits of their prominent citizens. The subjects of the articles and the dates upon which they appeared follow: April 3, Owatonna; April 10, Mankato, the "spot where 38 Indians were hanged in 1862"; April 17, "St. Peter, Minnesota's City of Governors"; April 24, Winona; May 1, Elk River and Dayton; May 8, New Ulm, a typical German-American community; May 15, Little Falls; May 22, Glencoe; May 29, Staples; June 5, Howard Lake; June 12, Northfield and its colleges; June 19, Virginia; June 26, Hibbing, the "iron ore center that is being moved"; July 3, Minneapolis; July 10, South St. Paul; July 17, Mendota and the Sibley House; July 24, Austin; July 31, Faribault; August 7, Stillwater; August 14, Red Wing; August 21, Montevideo; August 28, Rochester and the Mayo brothers; September 4, Montgomery, one of the state's Bohemian settlements; September 11, Lake City; September 18, Alexandria; and September 25, "Sauk Centre — of Main Street Fame."

With the announcement in an article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for September 4 that the old wooden fort erected at Fond du Lac more than a century ago is being demolished, the early history of the post of the American Fur Company at this place is briefly recounted.

About seventy people attended exercises at Hastings on May 19 in commemoration of the drafting of the temperance platform of the Independent Order of Good Templars at that place in 1858. The exercises were conducted jointly by the Good Templars and the Minnesota Territorial Pioneers. They included a memorial service for William B. Reed, a member of the committee which drafted the platform, who died at Daytona, Florida, on January 30. His portrait and that of the Reverend John Quigley, another member of the committee, are published with an article about the Good Templars in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 15.

The *Wabasha County Herald* for August 4 prints an interesting communication from Captain Fred A. Bill of St. Paul concerning its predecessor, the *Waumandee Herald*, which was published at Read's Landing. Included is a copy of a letter written from

Cincinnati and Pittsburgh in March, 1857, by Joseph McMaster to his brother Thomas, who had already settled in the little Minnesota river town. Joseph had been commissioned to secure the printing press, type, and other materials needed for establishing a newspaper, and his letter tells of their purchase and his arrangements for bringing them to Read's Landing. Captain Bill continues the story, telling how the brothers issued the first number of the *Waumandee Herald* and were drowned in the Mississippi River later in the same day of May, 1857. He also presents evidence, gleaned from an item in the *Lake City Leader* of February 6, 1879, to show that at least one issue of a second paper called the *Waumandee Herald* was published in August, 1857, by Norman E. Stevens, who purchased the McMaster brothers' equipment and who later gave the paper its present name.

What is probably the most sensational case in the criminal history of the state, that of the three Younger brothers, who were captured after robbing a bank in Northfield in 1876, is recalled in the *St. Paul Daily News* for July 17. A number of extracts from newspapers of 1901, when the two surviving brothers were released from the Minnesota State Prison, are reprinted to give the story of their prison experiences and pardon, and a list of their crimes also is published.

An "Industrial Supplement" issued with the *Faribault Daily News* of May 2 is made up of brief histories of the city's various manufacturing plants, at least one of which was established as early as 1865. It is interesting to note the number of different industries of which this town, in the heart of a rich agricultural district, can boast, for it is the home not only of the usual dairies and flour mills, but of a shoe factory, two furniture factories, a truck company, and a woolen mill.

The student who is interested in frontier social conditions will find excellent material in the Honorable Samuel Lord's "Recollections of Mantorville," which have been running serially in the *Mantorville Express* since March 18. Forms of amusement, commercial conditions, industrial life, schools and churches, and

even the table manners of the people of this typical frontier community are minutely described by a resident who came to the town when an infant with his pioneer parents in 1859, only five years after the arrival of the first inhabitants, and who resided there almost continuously for twenty-one years. Of special value is a list of the early settlers of Mantorville, grouped according to the state or European country of their nativity, which forms a part of the installment published on August 5.

The *Mantorville Express* reprints in the first number of its sixty-fifth volume, published June 24, some interesting extracts from the third number of its first volume, dated July 30, 1857. In the longest item the editor describes his journey of "three years ago" from central Wisconsin to Dodge County and gives his first impressions of the "embryo town, already christened Mantorville."

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of a settlement on the Sand Hill River in Polk County by Levi Steenerson in 1871 was celebrated by a group of Red River pioneers near Climax on June 8. A brief history of the settlement with the names of the first settlers appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 1, and an account of the celebration is published in the *Polk County Leader* of Crookston for June 10.

Members of the Red River Valley Old Settlers' Association gathered at Fargo, North Dakota, on September 22, and special talks arranged by local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution were given in the schools of both Fargo and Moorhead on the same day in commemoration of the fact that exactly fifty years earlier the "directors of the Northern Pacific railway, meeting in New York City, honored members of their body, by naming the twin pioneer cities after W. G. Moorhead, director of the road, and W. D. Fargo, director of the Wells-Fargo express company, a branch organization of the railway." In honor of the anniversary the pioneer history of the two cities is reviewed by the Reverend E. E. Saunders in two articles pub-

lished in the *Courier-News* of Fargo on August 14 and September 18. The author dwells principally upon religious and educational beginnings in the cities. A picture of the "first church in Fargo and Moorhead" and a portrait of the Reverend Oscar H. Elmer, the "Presbyterian home missionary" who erected it, appear with the second article.

An article about the pioneer Minnesota experiences of William W. Jackman of Geneva, Ohio, who was one of the surveyors of the town site of Brainerd, appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 3. It is accompanied by a portrait of Mr. Jackman.

Two interesting Sibley relics have been added recently to the collection in the Sibley House at Mendota. The first, an early oil portrait of Sibley, is the gift of Mrs. Edward B. Young of the St. Paul chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; the second, the quaint walnut desk used by Sibley when he was president of the St. Paul Gas Light Company, was presented by Mr. John P. Crowley, the present vice president of the company. A picture of the desk with a brief description is published in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 19.

The Mendota chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is raising funds for the purchase of the site where the treaty of Mendota was negotiated in 1851. The plan is to make a park of this spot and to mark it with a brass plate on a huge boulder.

An historical sketch of the region "About Freeborn Lake," contributed by W. H. Miller, who has resided since his youth in the vicinity of the lake, appears in the *Albert Lea Community Magazine* for April.

"Meeker County Changes I Have Noted" is the title of an article by Senator Magnus Johnson in the May number of the *Meeker County Farmer*. The author takes advantage of his long residence in the county to contrast present conditions with those he found upon his arrival from Sweden thirty years ago.

The history of the little village of Red Rock is outlined in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 1 in an article entitled "Ancient Shrine of Red Men is Modern Mecca for Methodists of Minnesota." The article contains a number of incorrect statements and attention is called to one of them—a reference to Little Crow as "one of the greatest of the Chippewa chiefs"—by Mr. Theodore H. Beaulieu of White Earth in a communication published in the *Tribune* for May 9.

In the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 3 are published Captain John R. Johnson's recollections of the days when Lake Minnetonka was the great Minnesota summer resort for tourists from the South and when trips on the numerous passenger boats which floated upon its waters were a favorite form of amusement for residents of the neighboring cities. A portrait of Captain Johnson as he appeared when he was in command of one of these boats, the "City of St. Louis," is reproduced with the article.

The organization and the instrument which have made the Twin Cities the musical center of the Northwest and have aroused the commendation of the entire musical world are the subjects of some interesting recent newspaper comment. An excellent sketch of the history of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra from its modest origin in 1903 to the present appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for September 11. The early struggles of the organization, the forming of the Orchestral Association of Minneapolis, the gradual development which has resulted in one of the great orchestras of the country, and the inestimable value of this musical body to its home community all are touched upon. The illustrations include a picture of the orchestra, a portrait of its conductor, Mr. Emil Oberhoffer, and a map of the United States on which are indicated the cities where the orchestra has been heard. St. Paul's great musical asset, the municipal organ, and the steps by which it was acquired are described in a section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 25. An article about one of the city's first organists, William J. Dyer, who has been identified with the musical life of St. Paul since 1870, is included.

The *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 24 publishes the major portion of a letter dated June 15, 1858, in which the writer, who appears to have been G. W. Magee of Waterloo, New York, recorded his impressions of St. Paul, St. Anthony, Minneapolis, and Fort Snelling. The letter was discovered recently by workmen who were renovating an old house in Waterloo, and a copy of it was sent to Mr. H. H. Bigelow of St. Paul.

"The progress of city transportation in the past fifty years" was demonstrated on May 4, when the Twin City Rapid Transit Company, to mark National Electric Railway Day, paraded an old horse car on Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis and Wabasha Street in St. Paul. In both cities pioneers rode in the car and veteran conductors, Mr. John Prior in St. Paul and Mr. Henry Green in Minneapolis, drove it. Announcements and accounts of the parade, illustrated with pictures of the horse car and of its passengers and drivers, appear in the contemporary Twin City papers. A list of successive improvements adopted by the street railway company, which is included in some of these articles, is of special interest.

The renewed use of "trolley trailers" by the Twin City Rapid Transit Company caused the *Minneapolis Tribune* in its issue of August 7 to publish a picture, with a brief explanatory note, of a queer little trailer which was used in Minneapolis in the eighties.

On September 17, "Constitution Day," the St. Anthony Falls chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled the bronze tablets which it had agreed to place at either end of the St. Anthony Falls Bridge in Minneapolis at the time that the bridge was named (see *ante*, p. 94). The inscriptions on the tablets give an interesting resumé of the history of the falls, especially of their significance in the industrial development of Minneapolis. The tablets were presented to the city by the regent of the chapter, and were accepted by Mayor George E. Leach.

According to an article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for July 17, "Minneapolis is the birthplace of the American Institute of

Banking," which held its annual convention in that city from July 19 to 22. The brief history of the organization in the *Tribune* includes a list of the past presidents of the Minneapolis branch.

The ups and downs of the Minneapolis police force during changing administrations and some difficult cases in the city's criminal history are described in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 22 in an interview with James Doyle, "who has himself been chief twice and who spent 20 years in the department as a plainclothes man." Portraits of seven chiefs of police who served the city between 1887 and 1904 appear with the article.

In an article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 14 Albert B. Needham, the "oldest member in point of service on the Minneapolis police force," tells about some of the experiences connected with his long period of service as a patrolman and as city jailer.

Some Minneapolis landmarks which are being demolished to make way for more modern structures are the subjects of several articles in recent issues of the *Minneapolis Journal*. Two of these, published on June 26 and 30, tell something of the past of the strange patchwork of buildings formerly occupied by the New England Furniture and Carpet Company. According to these accounts they must have been a mecca for the city's pleasure-seekers in the early eighties, for they included the Cyclorama Building, erected for the purpose of exhibiting a huge picture of the "Battle of Atlanta," and a roller-skating rink, which was used later for staging prize fights, concerts, fairs, and various other forms of entertainment. The history of the building erected by the Minnesota Loan and Trust Company in 1885 is told, the business section of Minneapolis at that time is described, and the principal concerns of the day are located in a third article in the *Journal* for July 10. "Pretentious Minneapolis Homes of Years Ago Giving Way to Modern Structures" is the title of an article published with pictures of six of these old dwellings on July 3; another, in the issue of September 15, has for its subject

the old Harrison homestead, which has been a "landmark on upper Nicollet for 61 years."

Sketches of the histories of "two more landmarks of Minneapolis" which are being razed — the old St. James Hotel, more recently known as the Miller Hotel, and the "old Wallace homestead" — appear with pictures of these structures in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 15.

Mr. Joseph Warren, who has been delivering mail in Minneapolis during the past thirty-five years, describes the growth of the city's postal service during that period in some reminiscences published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for April 24.

The two concluding installments of the series of interviews with interesting Minneapolis residents which has been running in the *Minneapolis Journal* since January (see *ante*, p. 94) appear in the issues of that paper for April 3 and 10. They consist of reminiscences of James E. Clune, a veteran railroad man, and William G. Northup, president of the North Star Woolen Mills.

The *Minneapolis Tribune* for July 24 publishes an article about the cemetery established in 1855 by Martin Layman at what is now Lake Street and Cedar Avenue, Minneapolis, and from which the bodies are now being removed. The article is composed chiefly of stories about Minneapolis pioneers who were buried there.

Benjamin Backnumber presents one of the best of his stories of "St. Paul Before This" in the *St. Paul Daily News* for May 8, on the subject of the state's "Former Capitols." He gives a convenient list of the various homes of Minnesota's government, with the date when each was occupied. Another article of more than local interest is his account of the "Birth of the State Constitution," published on June 5. In other articles he deals with the first Decoration Day celebration in St. Paul, May 29; the early St. Paul hotel which was known as Moffet's Castle, July 24; the methods used by representatives of rival steamboat companies when they "hustled for passengers" at the St. Paul wharves in

the early days, April 17; and the "Grasshopper Plague," July 10. Biographical sketches of Captain Martin Scott, who is identified with the early history of Fort Snelling; Judge Aaron Goodrich; Judge Greenleaf Clark; Colonel Timothy Sheehan, who commanded at Fort Ridgley during the siege of 1862; and John Farrington, a pioneer St. Paul business man, make up the articles for April 10, May 1, August 28, and September 11 and 25. The author also recalls the local visits of two men of international fame, Robert G. Ingersoll and Cyrus Field, in articles appearing in the issues of the *News* for April 3 and July 17.

A series of articles about St. Paul, intended to acquaint the residents thereof with their city, has been running in the Monday issues of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. The initial article, published August 15, deals largely with "firsts" such as the arrival of the first white man, the building of the first church, the publication of the first newspaper, and the completion of the first railroad. In succeeding articles various municipal activities and improvements are taken up, the origin of each is described, and its growth and value to the city is noted. The subjects and dates of these articles follow: the gradual acquisition of property which has resulted in the St. Paul park system, August 29; the development of the educational facilities of the city, September 5; the extension of the city's water supply, September 12; the improvement of the street-lighting system, September 19; street, sewer, and bridge construction, September 26; and the evolution of the public library and the construction of its present building and of the St. Paul Auditorium, October 3.

The "Growth of St. Paul in 65 Years" is cleverly illustrated in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for October 3 by a picture of the slim city directory for 1856 beside the ponderous volume issued in 1921. Some interesting statements about the two books also are published.

In 1879, when but fourteen telephones had been installed in St. Paul, "no one complained about phone service" but all marvelled when the instruments worked at all, according to an article

in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for April 3. An interesting picture of the city's first telephone exchange is reconstructed for the reader by Miss Elizabeth Good, one of the four original operators, and Mr. Joseph Brown, one of the first "switchboard boys." Curious innovations which were introduced from time to time are noted and the growth of the service is briefly sketched. Portraits of Mr. Brown and Miss Good and of Mr. Charles Joplin, who has been connected with St. Paul telephone corporations for more than forty years, appear with the article.

Memories of days when the four-wheeled hack was the chief means of communication in St. Paul are revived in an article about "Butch" Gadbout, a cabman of the early days, in the *St. Paul Daily News* for July 24. A picture of an old-fashioned cab and a portrait of "Butch in his prime" accompany the article.

The history of the picturesque little church which nestles against the hillside at the junction of Pleasant Avenue and Ramsey Street in St. Paul is recounted in the *St. Paul Daily News* for August 21 by Gregory Bolt of St. Paul, a brother of the Reverend Nicholas Bolt of Lugano, Switzerland, who was the founder and first pastor of the German Presbyterian congregation for which the church was built. With the article appear a portrait of the founder and a picture of the church, which was built in 1890 and which has been recently transformed from a place of worship into a little theater and, finally, into a funeral chapel.

The announcement that St. Mary's Church is erecting a new home to replace the "oldest Catholic church building" in St. Paul is the occasion for the publication in the *St. Paul Daily News* for June 26 of an outline of the history of the building, which includes interesting accounts of the laying of its corner stone, of its dedication in 1867, and of the celebration of its golden jubilee in 1917. It is interesting to note that the sermons for the two latter occasions both were preached by Archbishop Ireland. Among the illustrations appearing with the article are a picture of the old ivy-covered church and a portrait of its first priest, the Reverend Louis E. Caillet.

What three men, Henry Hale, Greenleaf Clark, and James J. Hill, have done for the St. Paul Public Library is revealed in an article, accompanied by their portraits, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for August 7. Brief sketches of the lives of the two former men precede the descriptions of their bequests; but all the space allotted to Mr. Hill is devoted to a resumé of the origin and working out of his idea for the reference library which now stands as a monument to his name.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Catholic boys' school now known as Cretin High School, which was opened in 1871 in a little stone building on Wabasha Street, St. Paul, by two members of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, is the occasion for the publication of a history of the school, by John Fitzgerald, in the *St. Paul Daily News* for July 10. The illustrations include pictures of the original and present homes of the school and portraits of six of the seven directors who have guided its destiny during half a century.

Photographs of the members of the pioneer St. Paul musical organization which came to be known as Seibert's Band are reproduced with a brief article about the band and some of its members in the *St. Paul Daily News* for July 24. A statement in the article that this was "St. Paul's first military band" brought forth the information that it had a predecessor, a band organized by Leberich Otto. An article about this earlier organization and a portrait of its director appear in the *News* for July 31.

The Years Since '71 is the title of a booklet by Joseph G. Pyle issued by Gordon and Ferguson to commemorate the firm's fiftieth anniversary (St. Paul, 1921. 24 p.). The author sketches the growth during the half century of this great wholesale fur establishment, and he also depicts the character of Richards Gordon, the man who saw the opportunity for such a business in St. Paul and promptly seized and made the most of it. A portrait of Mr. Gordon, pictures of St. Paul's wholesale district in 1871 and in 1921, and sketches of the original and present homes of the firm, add to the attractiveness of the booklet.

Special sections of both the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and the *St. Paul Daily News* for April 3 are devoted to articles on the past and present of the firm of Montgomery Ward and Company. Their publication marks the completion of the new building of the great mail order concern in St. Paul.

The fiftieth anniversary of Mr. Andrew Schoch's connection with the St. Paul grocery concern which has borne his name since 1874, is the occasion for an article about his business career in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 20. With it appear portraits of Mr. Schoch and members of his family, a picture of his first store in St. Paul, and views of the present establishment.

The fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Mannheimer Brothers store in St. Paul furnished the occasion for articles about its history in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and the *St. Paul Daily News* for April 10. The articles are illustrated with portraits of the founders of the concern, Louis Goodkind, his son, Benjamin L. Goodkind, and Jacob Mannheimer, and of members of their families who have since entered the business.

Little Bohemia, a tiny fishing hamlet situated on the Mississippi River flats on the outskirts of St. Paul, is described in an article in the *St. Paul Daily News* for September 18. The group of queer little huts and their inhabitants, among whom peasant customs of the Old World still prevail, are depicted in both words and pictures.

The village of Little Canada, a reminder that very early Minnesota attracted immigrants from the north, and the little group of aged French-Canadians who still inhabit it are described in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for July 17. The village is situated on Lake Gervais, just north of St. Paul.

Memories of logging days on the St. Croix are revived in an article by Jay W. Ludden in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for April 10 about Prescott, the sleepy little Wisconsin village situated at the junction of the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers, which once

was a prosperous lumbering town. The article is occasioned by the making of plans for a bridge across the Mississippi River at this point. The illustrations include a picture of the ferry now in use and several views of the town.

An account of the early settlers and settlements of Pembina County, North Dakota, by Jonas Hall, a pioneer of the region, is published in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 3. Of special interest to Minnesotans is the story of how James Wickes Taylor of St. Paul suggested the name for Walhalla while stopping there in the course of a trip from his home to Winnipeg, where he was United States consul.

On June 25, the forty-fifth anniversary of the massacre of General George A. Custer and his men, the battle of the Little Big Horn was reenacted by members of the American Legion and the United States Army and Crow Indians on the site of the original conflict. Memories of General Custer and his last battle are revived also in articles in two local newspapers. In the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 19 the military operations which preceded the battle are described and the story of the massacre is outlined. The second article, in the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 26, is based upon information supplied by Mrs. Edward Pennington of Minneapolis, whose brother, Lieutenant James S. Sturgis, was killed in the battle. She expresses the opinion that Custer "was guilty of a military blunder" and that he fought in the hope of gaining personal glory. Extensive quotations from contemporary newspapers are presented in support of this contention. Mrs. Pennington is the possessor of large collections of newspaper clippings referring to the battle and of photographs of people and objects connected with it. Some of the latter are reproduced with the article.

According to an article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 28 another "sole survivor" of the Custer Massacre has been discovered in the person of J. O. Spencer, a Faribault pioneer, who "exhibits a worn and tattered diary" to prove his claim.

The thrilling experiences of a loyalist, Dr. John Schultz, during the Riel rebellion in Canada in December, 1869, are recounted in the *Manitoba Free Press* for May 14 and 21 in an article in two installments headed "A Doctor Under a Load of Hay." The story of the doctor's flight from the prison at Fort Garry, where he had been confined by Louis Riel, to Fort Alexander and Duluth, is here told by James Monkman, the driver of the sleigh in which Dr. Schultz escaped.

The Men of the Hudson's Bay Company, by N. M. W. J. McKenzie (Fort William, Ontario, 1921. 214 p.), is a record of the author's experiences and observations in the service of the company from 1876 to 1916.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

The Minnesota War Records Commission has temporarily curtailed its activities in the field of World War history, to which it was originally assigned, and is now engaged primarily in the preparation of a history of Minnesota in the Spanish-American War and the Phillipine Insurrection, publication of which, under the law as it now stands, is to antedate the appearance of projected volumes relating to the later conflict. Besides a general account of local events and conditions relating to or affected by the war with Spain, the book will contain histories and rosters of the four volunteer regiments furnished by the state at that time, together with records of Minnesotans who entered other units or branches of the service. An abundance of material relating to the Minnesota regiments, including muster rolls, pay rolls, and regimental reports, is available in the office of the adjutant general of the state, but that office has no records of scattering enlistments, of which it is estimated that there were several hundred at least. Such records must be obtained from the war and navy departments, and the secretary of the commission has been to Washington and has made arrangements there whereby it is hoped the desired information may be secured. For the narrative portion of the history, the commission is assembling material from government publications, state archives, private collections, and

newspaper files — all in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The commission continues to receive material relating to activities of the World War period. The state auditor has turned over all records of the registration of aliens and their property holdings, which was conducted by the auditor under the direction of the Minnesota Commission of Public Safety in February, 1918. These records include printed lists of the names of registrants, arranged according to precinct and ward or township and county, and a file, similarly arranged, of the registrants' sworn declarations. From Mrs. Joseph S. Gaylord of Winona, state historian of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the commission has received a collection of reports of the war work done by the several chapters of that organization and lists of the names with the war records of members or their relatives who were in the service.

The Hennepin County War Records Committee is specializing in the compilation of records of the services of individuals during the World War, though attention is also given to the history of local war organizations. The committee has transcribed, from official records in the office of the state commission, individual statements of the services of some twenty-four thousand Hennepin County soldiers, sailors, and marines, and has recently launched an aggressive campaign to secure the names and records of nurses and welfare workers. Its work in the compilation of records of local men and women who lost their lives in the service achieved a special significance in connection with the ceremony at the dedication of the Victory Memorial Driveway in Minneapolis on June 11, on which occasion trees, individually marked with the names of "Gold Stars," were planted in commemoration of the county's war dead. The names used in marking these memorial trees were obtained from a list compiled by the war records committee, which in this and other ways cooperated with the general committee in charge of the ceremony. Among the many methods used to make this list as complete and accurate as possible was the publication of provisional lists, first in the *Minneapolis Journal*

for November 14, 1920, and finally in a pamphlet entitled *Gold Stars of Minneapolis and Hennepin County*, published by the committee on May 21, 1921. The latter list, with corrections and additions which brought the total to five hundred and fifty-five names, was embodied, together with other matter pertinent to the occasion, in a souvenir program issued by the general committee after the event under the title *World War Gold Star Roll of Hennepin County* (36 p.).

Progress in all lines of war records work is reported by the St. Louis County branch of the commission. The county committee at its headquarters in Duluth is checking its records of some ten thousand local service men against lists obtained from the state commission, the bonus board, and local organizations and institutions. Special efforts are being made to complete the county Gold Star Roll, which now includes upwards of three hundred names, and to extend the committee's collection of photographs, war letters, and other personal records. The canvass of local war agencies continues — the committee recently received from the Duluth chapter of the American Red Cross a large collection of samples of items of all sorts furnished by the Red Cross for the comfort of service men. Newspaper files of the war period have been carefully searched, and a beginning has been made in the writing of a war history of the county, with the possibility of publication in view. Recent visits made by the chairman, the Honorable William E. Culkin, to some of the range towns have contributed to a county-wide interest in the work.

Publication of the Ramsey County committee's projected history of St. Paul and Ramsey County in the World War is delayed pending completion of the roster and the receipt of promised reports and material on the history of various local war organizations. The roster, compiled originally from the service men's own written statements and now including some thirteen thousand names, is being verified and extended by reference to official records on file in the office of the state commission. Recent contributions of material for the historical narrative include a report of the work of the St. Paul post office in connection with the sale

of war savings stamps and liberty bonds, written by Mr. Joseph Brown, assistant postmaster. The committee looks forward to the completion of the work being done by Mrs. Charles N. Akers of St. Paul, a volunteer assistant who is gathering detailed information as to the war service of individuals and organizations of the Hamline district.

The Chisago County War History Committee, organized under the direction of the war records commission in 1919 by the Honorable Victor L. Johnson of Center City, published in March, 1920, a history of *Chisago County, Minnesota, in the World War*, edited by Mr. Ansgar L. Almen of Lindstrom (303 p. Illustrations), a copy of which has only recently come to hand. Publication of the history was undertaken and carried through as a public enterprise, with no thought of profit. In appearance and, with certain exceptions, in subject matter, the volume is of the usual souvenir type, but the historical narrative, portions of which were written by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Almen, Mr. M. S. Norelius, and Dr. John Sander, is of unusual quality and interest, and a wholly unique feature is added by the inclusion of an extended series of documents and blank forms, printed in full, relating to general and local aspects of the work of the food administration.

Recent acquisitions of county war histories of the strictly conventional type, produced by private enterprise include: *Dakota County in the World War* (Red Wing, Red Wing Printing Company, September, 1919. 160 p. Illustrations); *Jackson County, Minnesota, in the World War* (Lakefield, Neulen and Lueneburg, 1921. 144 p. Illustrations); and *Otter Tail County, Minnesota, in the World War*, by Victor George Lundeen (Fergus Falls, Lundeen Publishing Company, 1919. 288 p. Illustrations).

Jefferson County in the World War, compiled by George W. Reeves (Watertown, New York, 1920. 280 p. Maps, diagrams, illustrations), a volume relating to a New York community, is full of suggestions for those concerned with the preparation of county war histories. The almost entire absence of portraits of individuals and the preëminence given to the narrative history

of community and group activities are two of the distinguishing features of the book.

An account of the origin and growth of a great collection of World War history material, consisting primarily of publications and printed matter of every conceivable variety gathered from all quarters of the globe and especially from the leading belligerent countries, is given in a pamphlet entitled *The Hoover War Collection at Stanford University, California: A Report and an Analysis*, by E. D. Adams (Stanford University Press. 82 p.). It need hardly be added that the collection bears the name of Herbert Hoover, an alumnus and trustee of Stanford University and donor of the funds which made this vast undertaking possible.

The Indiana Historical Commission has brought about the compilation of a "county war history" for most of the counties of the state, and a law enacted by the legislature at its last session makes it likely that many of these will be printed. By this law county commissioners are authorized to appropriate a thousand dollars for the purpose.

A pamphlet entitled *California in the War: War Addresses, Proclamations, and Patriotic Messages of Governor William D. Stephens* (Sacramento, 1921. 90 p.), has been issued by the war history department of the California Historical Survey Commission. The Virginia War History Commission has published as supplements to the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* for January, April, July, and October, 1921, calendars of material in the state war records collection, including local war history material collected in the several counties and cities of Virginia, material relating to the history of military organizations, and the proclamations, addresses, and messages of the war governors of that state.



